

That it is the opinion of the committee, that out of the interest paid by the debtors of the state, the creditors of the state be paid the interest due them, and that any deficiency be paid out of the supplies for the next year.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that the paper money called red money, continental state money, and state money, with the interest calculated thereon, and any certificate stipulated and expressed to be discounted in taxes, be received in payment of all arrearages of public taxes due before the first day of March 1784.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that all confiscated British property, except New Connaught manor in Cæcil county, that remains undisposed of, be sold by the intendant of the revenue as soon as may be, for current money, payable on the first of January 1789, with interest annually.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that every purchaser of confiscated British property, who hath not given bond, shall give bond before the first day of April next, with such security as the intendant of the revenue shall require, for the payment of the purchase money, with interest from the time and agreeably to the contract, payable the first day of January 1790, with interest annually, to commence from the first of September last; and if such purchaser neglect to give bond as aforesaid, the intendant of the revenue be authorized to declare the sale and contract void, and shall sell the same as above, unless the purchaser shall, before the sale, pay the consideration with interest, in the emissions contracted for, or in specie certificates issued by this state.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that the great fluctuation and inequality in the valuation from 1778 to 1782, inclusive, of the property in the state, especially of land, renders it impossible for the legislature to ascertain the sum that any tax will produce, and therefore that it is the opinion of the committee, that the valuation of land in the several counties, (except in Annapolis, Baltimore, Frederick, and other towns) according to the returns of the commissioners of the tax agreeably to the act to raise the supplies for the year 1781, be considered and declared to be the value of land on which to lay the tax for the next year, and that in Annapolis, Baltimore, Frederick, and other towns, the valuation of land in those places in the year 1783, shall be considered and declared to be the value thereof on which to lay the tax for the next year, and that the commissioners of the tax for the next year be authorized to add any land since granted, with such value as they shall determine, and to add any land since leased on ground rent; and that the commissioners be invested with full authority to abate or increase the valuation of any tract of land, and that they be particularly directed to make diligent inquiry, and invariably to observe, that all land in their county of the same quality be estimated at the same value, that on comparison equity and justice may take place in the valuation of land in their county; but the commissioners are not to abate the valuation so as to lessen the aggregate value of the whole, but the same shall not be diminished.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that the tenants of New Connaught manor have the preference of purchasing such parts of the said manor as they now possess under any lease from or under the title of Talbot, or any of the late proprietors of this state, on payment of a reasonable and moderate valuation, on giving bonds with good security, to pay the principal on or before the first of January 1790, and to pay the interest annually; and that the value of such lands, without the improvements thereon, be determined by the intendant of the revenue, or by any two of three persons on oath, to be nominated by him, such persons to be indifferent, and not living in Cæcil county, or within fifty miles thereof, and the valuation of the lands by the assessors in 1781, shall be the general but not the conclusive evidence of the worth thereof in fee simple, and thereout shall be deducted the leases for lives or years, in the computation whereof the length of the term for years, the age and health of the tenant for life, and the chance of the reversion, shall be considered; and if the said tenants shall refuse or neglect to purchase, the said intendant of the revenue shall sell the same on the same credit, and the highest price he can procure.

That it is the opinion of the committee, that a tax of fifteen shillings current money be imposed on every hundred pounds of property within this state, payable in two equal payments in the months of April and November 1785.

All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

R. B. LATIMER, clk.

Which was read.

On motion, ORDERED, That the report from the conferrees, and the report of the committee to estimate the supplies for the year 1785, be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

On motion, the question was put, That the intendant of the revenue be authorized and directed to pay Samuel Chase, Esquire, five hundred pounds sterling, for the expences already incurred by him in the two suits in the high court of chancery of Great-Britain, one against, the other by him, respecting the stock in the bank of England belonging to this state, and in compensation for his detention in England for five months in consequence of the said suits, and for his personal services in defending, prosecuting and maintaining, the right of this state to the said bank stock? Resolved in the affirmative.

A petition from Francis Clement Dyer, of Prince-George's county, respecting the sales of the real estate of Samuel Hyde, deceased, merchant in London; was preferred and read, and referred to Mr. Ridgely of William, Mr. Harris, and Mr. Sewell, to consider and report thereon.