

Mr. M'Mechen, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report :

THE committee appointed to report on the petition of Robert Ballard, administrator de bonis non of Jonathan Plowman, deceased, beg leave to report to the honourable house, that they have examined the facts set forth in the said petition, and find that Jonathan Plowman, some time in the year 1776, made and executed his last will and testament, wherein he did authorize and empower Rebecca Plowman and David Arnold, his executors, to make sale or other disposal of such part of his real estate, for the purpose of paying his just debts, as to them, with the advice of his friend Walter Tolly, junior, should be deemed necessary. That the said executors, as well as the said trustee, departed this life before the estate of the said Jonathan Plowman was settled, and letters of administration de bonis non on the estate of the said Jonathan Plowman were granted to the said Robert Ballard.

Your committee further report, that from the facts stated it appears, that the said Jonathan Plowman, at the time of his decease, was considerably indebted beyond the value of his personal estate, and that many of the creditors will remain unsatisfied, unless the powers vested in the executors and trustee nominated in the last will of the said Jonathan should be revived. Your committee are therefore of opinion, that a law should pass, empowering the said Robert Ballard to exercise all and every of the powers vested in the executors of the said Jonathan Plowman, with the consent of Andrew Buchanan, Esq; to be nominated trustee in lieu of the said Walter Tolly, deceased. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

A. GOLDER, clk.

Which was read.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to obtain an equal valuation of the land in this state according to its actual worth. ORDERED, That Mr. G. Scott, Mr. M'Mechen, Mr. Chase, Mr. Key, Mr. Joseph Dashiell, Mr. Cadwalader, and Mr. Gibson, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Hanson has leave of absence.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

## F R I D A Y, December 24, 1784.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Hanson. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. Quynn, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee, to whom was referred the petition of Charles Stuart, beg leave to report, that they have taken under their consideration the petition and papers, and find the facts therein stated are true, and are of opinion that the prayer of the said petition should be granted. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

W. PINKNEY, clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Ridgely appeared in the house.

Mr. Joseph Dashiell, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a report on the petition of Mary Walley; which was read.

Mr. Plowden brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to make valid two deeds of conveyance from William Hicks to Vernon Hebb and James Aderton; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The report on the petition of Alexander Symmer; the report on the petition of Robert Long; and the report on the memorial of Mombos and Latel; were read the second time and concurred with.

The bill to empower Elijah Merryman to devise the real estate therein mentioned; and the bill to empower the justices of Washington county to assess and levy a sum of money from the inhabitants of said county, for the purpose of finishing the building of their court-house and prison; were read the second time and passed. Sent to the senate by Mr. Johnson.

A petition from Jacob Lunn, late collector of Cæcil county, praying a further time to complete his collection; was preferred and read.

Mr. Nicholas Worthington appeared in the house.

A petition from the episcopal clergy, respecting a fund for providing small annuities for the widows of clergymen, and for the education of their children, and other pious uses; was preferred and read the first and second time, and leave given to bring in a bill to provide a fund for the relief of the widows and children of the clergy of the protestant episcopal church in this state, and for other pious and charitable purposes respecting the said church. ORDERED, That Mr. Chase, Mr. Hindman, Mr. Joseph Dashiell, and Mr. Ware, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to declare Joshua Johnson, merchant, his wife and children, citizens of this state.

The petition of Nicholas Way and others, was referred to Mr. Edwards, Mr. Joseph Dashiell, and Mr. Oneale, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Beatty, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report :

THE