

FRIDAY, November 17, 1786.

**T**HE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

A petition from the president and directors of the Patowmack company, on behalf of the said company, setting forth, that they entered on the work within the time limited, and prosecuted the same at great expence, and with unremitted assiduity; that they expect to complete the whole navigation within the ten years allowed; that the latter part of the summer and the fall of 1785 were so unfavourable, that the hands employed in the bed of the river, above the Great Falls, were often drove from their work by rises of the water, &c. and praying an act may pass indulging them with time till the 17th day of November, 1790; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Wright, Mr. Faw, Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. F. Bowie and Mr. Chase, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Robert Bowie has leave of absence on account of his indisposition.

A letter from the speaker of the house of representatives of the state of South-Carolina, of August last, to the speaker of the house of delegates of Maryland, with a copy of the laws passed by the general assembly at their last meeting in Charleston, was read.

**ORDERED**, That the petition from sundry inhabitants of Harford county, referred from the last to the present session, and the counter remonstrance thereto, be taken into consideration on Friday next.

**ORDERED**, That the petition of Jonathan Hagar, and counter petition thereto, referred from the last to the present session, be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

Mr. William Purnell and Mr. Jenkins Henry, two delegates returned for Worcester county, and Mr. Michael Taney, a delegate returned for Calvert county, appeared, and after qualifying in the mode prescribed by the constitution and form of government, took their seats in the house.

A petition from John Carmichael, of Somerset county, setting forth, that some time in the month of April, 1785, he purchased a certain lot of land of the intendant of the revenue, containing fifty acres, for which he passed his bond with security for the payment thereof; that the tenant with-holds the possession of the said lot of land, and praying relief in the premises; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Henry, Mr. Matthews and Mr. Purnell, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Train Ackworth, of Somerset county, setting forth, that some time in the month of April, 1785, he purchased of the intendant of the revenue a certain lot of land, situate in the county aforesaid, and containing by estimation one hundred acres; that the tenant in possession of the said land at the time of the sale, refuses to give him possession, although he has frequently required him so to do, and praying relief in the premises; was preferred, read, and referred to the above committee to consider and report thereon.

The petition of Richard Carnes, of Saint Mary's county, was referred to Mr. Forrest, Mr. Wright and Mr. Owings, to consider and report thereon.

A memorial and petition from Ezekiel Forman, late clerk of Kent county, with an account against the state for services done, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Wright, Mr. Joshua Seney and Mr. Miller, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from John Biscoe, of Saint Mary's county, setting forth, that a law passed in 1782, under certain restrictions, empowering him to settle and receive debts due to James Buchanan and company, and he being a partner, is desirous of making a settlement of the company affairs both in Britain and in this country, which cannot be done under the restrictions of the said law, and praying an act may pass to repeal the said law; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Forrest, Mr. Dent and Mr. W. Bowie, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from John Rawlings, a languishing prisoner confined in the common gaol of Cecil county, and praying to be released therefrom, was preferred and read.

On motion, **ORDERED**, That Mr. Matthews, Mr. J. Johnson, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Holmes and Mr. Dent, be a committee to consider and report on all petitions presented by persons for relief from confinement in gaol.

A petition from Aquila Scott and Alexander Rigden, of Harford county, setting forth, that they were appointed by the commissioners of said county to take an accurate account of all the land in their county, with any buildings thereon, agreeable to an act passed last session, and praying the commissioners may be authorized to allow such sum as may be thought adequate to their services; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Love, Mr. W. Bowie and Mr. Faw, to consider and report thereon.

His excellency the governor communicates to the house letters from the secretary of congress of the 4th of March, with acts of congress of the 3d instant, 22d of April with Indian treaties of the 30th April, 1784, 9th of June with treaty of commerce with Prussia, 28th of June with resolve of the 27th instant, 26th of July with act of congress of the 14th instant, 12th of August with sundry enclosures, 13th, 16th and 21st of October with act and ordinance of congress, 27th of October with acts of congress of the 30th April, 1784, and the 23d October, 1st of April, 1st of June, 1st of July, 4th of August and 2d of October, with a state of the representation in congress, 21st of October with an act for augmenting the troops in the service of the union, and 4th of November; from the board of treasury of the 21st of October, with resolutions of congress of the 20th and 21st instant; from the office of foreign affairs of the 3d of May and 6th of July, with copy of Mr. Adams's letter, 28th of August with copy of Mr. Jefferson's letter, and 23d of October with account of negroes carried away by the British; which were read.