

The paper bill No. 32, was thus endorsed; "By the senate, December 17, 1787: The engrossed bill whereof this is the original read and assented to," and sent to the senate by Mr. Henry.

The bill to continue the acts of assembly therein mentioned, was read the second time by especial order, passed, and sent to the senate by Mr. Harwood.

The engrossed bill No. 27, was read and assented to, and sent to the senate, with the paper bill thereof, by Mr. Grahame.

The report from the committee of grievances and courts of justice, was read the second time and concurred with. ORDERED, That the parties appear before the committee of grievances and courts of justice on the tenth day of the next session of assembly.

The report on the petition of Philip Read was read the second time and concurred with; and thereupon, RESOLVED, That the bond of the said Philip Read, with good security, to be approved of by the treasurer of the western shore, be accepted and taken, payable to this state, for the sum due from him to the aforesaid William Brown, provided the said William Brown shall agree thereto; and that the said William Brown be credited with the amount of the bond to be given by the said Philip Read as aforesaid, against so much of the principal of the said William Brown's bond.

Sent to the senate by Mr. Nicholls.

Samuel Hughes, Esquire, from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker a letter from his excellency the governor of this day, respecting the authority of passing accounts against the state, and drawing orders on the treasury, endorsed; "By the senate, December 17, 1787: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

By order,

J. DORSEY, clk."

Which was read.

The report on the petition of Thomas Butt, on behalf of the representatives of Edward Butt, deceased, was read the second time and concurred with.

Whereas it appears to this general assembly, that there was due to Edward Butt, a soldier of the second Maryland regiment, for his services in the army, the sum of eighty-six pounds eighteen shillings and eight-pence, and that the said Edward Butt was killed in the action at Guildford courthouse on the sixteenth day of March, 1781; that Thomas Butt, one of the representatives of the said Edward, applied to the auditor-general, on behalf of the said representatives, for a certificate for the amount of the pay due to the said Edward, but the said auditor, having granted two certificates for the said sum, to wit, one for £. 40, and the other for £. 46 18 8, to some person who personated the said Edward, and made oath, that he was Edward Butt, of the second Maryland regiment, thought himself not authorized to issue a certificate to the said Thomas Butt, although he was satisfied of the fraud in the person who obtained it by false swearing as aforesaid; and it appearing just and reasonable, that the representatives of the said Edward Butt should receive the reward due to their deceased brother for his services, RESOLVED, That the auditor-general be directed to issue one or more certificates to the administrator or representatives of the said Edward Butt for the said sum of eighty-six pounds eighteen shillings and eight-pence.

Sent to the senate by Mr. Crauford.

Mr. Ridgely, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report: THE committee to whom was referred the petition of David Poe, beg leave to report, that they have examined into the facts alleged in the said petition, and believe them true. Particularly it appears to your committee, on examination into the original book of receipts and expenditures in his office, that a quantity of hay was received by him from Edward Gaither, sixty bushels of corn from Josias Bowen, and thirty-two tons from Thomas Cockey Deye, Esquire, and that the said quantities of corn and hay, amongst the other articles of forage, were issued and delivered for the use of the United States in the course of his office, and these receipts and issues, on the account and for the use of the United States, to appearing on the petitioner's books, which are very regular, are farther evidenced by the affirmation of William Leas.

That suits have been commenced against the petitioner by the said Messieurs Deye, Gaither and Bowen; that Gaither recovered £. 91 13 10 for damages, interest and costs, for which the said petitioner was executed, and which he hath paid, besides twenty-nine shillings, his own costs; that Bowen recovered £. 22 11 0 damages, interest and costs, for which an execution is now issued; and that Mr. Deye's suit is now depending, on which he will probably recover at the rate of four pounds per tun of the said hay, with interest and costs.

That the price of none of the said forage hath been allowed to the said petitioner, as your committee believe, and that he has become liable, in his private capacity, for the said corn and hay, by his engaging himself personally for the payment, which could only proceed from an anxiety to promote the operations of the army; and your committee cannot but remark, that he hath been obliged to take certificates on the footing of finals, not only for his pay in arrear as an officer, but for large advances of his own money, contrary to a practice too common, of not only retaining public money for the officers pay, but applying it to promote schemes of private profit.

Your committee, impressed with the extreme hardship of the petitioner's case, and believing, from information of his circumstances, that the loss of so much money will be exceedingly distressing to himself and family, cannot but recommend him to the benevolence of the house, believing the good people of this state had rather divide the loss, than that a citizen should be ruined by his exertions to support their common cause.

All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

W. PINKNEY, clk.

Which was read.

Mr.