

The house proceeded to elect by ballot a committee, agreeably to an act passed November session, 1787, to compel the attendance of members of the general assembly, and Mr. Dent, Mr. Seney and Mr. Faw, were appointed a committee for that purpose.

The following message being prepared, was sent to the senate by Mr. Faw.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, NOVEMBER 12, 1788.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,
THIS house have appointed Mr. Dent, Mr. Seney and Mr. Faw, to be of the joint committee with three members to be named by your honours, to hear and determine on such excuses as may be made to them by those members of the last general assembly who have not been excused for absenting themselves during the last session of assembly, and of those members of this general assembly who have absented themselves, or who may hereafter absent themselves, without leave, during this session, according to an act, entitled, An act to compel the attendance of the members of the general assembly.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Mr. Lecompte, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report :
THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Jehu Bowen, of Baltimore county, a lieutenant in the Maryland line in the late continental army, beg leave to report, that they have examined the facts therein stated, and find them true. Your committee are of opinion the said petitioner ought to be allowed the half pay of an ensign for life, as a compensation for his services, and charge the same to the United States. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

T. PURDY, clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Murray, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report :
THE committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of Cæcil, Harford, and Baltimore counties, beg leave to report, that when the late intendant sold the reserves, he informed the purchasers, that if other persons were entitled to the preference, and inclined to purchase, they must relinquish their bargains. Your committee cannot determine whether the petitioners have the right of pre-emption under the act by virtue whereof the lands in question were sold ; but they are of opinion that a general law should pass, empowering the chancellor to hear and decide, in a summary manner, in all cases respecting the right of pre-emption under the aforesaid act ; and that in case he should decree the right to others than those who have bonded, he have a power to direct the treasurer to deliver up the bond of the purchaser, and to take bond, with sufficient security, for the payment of the purchase money, from the person in whose favour the decree may be made ; provided, that the claim of pre-emption be put in within a certain time to be limited. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. KNAPP, clk.

Which was read.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a supplement to an act, entitled, An act for the relief of disabled and maimed officers, soldiers, marines and seamen. ORDERED, That Mr. Chapman, Mr. Duvall and Mr. Dent, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

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

By the COMMITTEE to whom the petition of Cumberland Dugan was referred.

YOUR committee beg leave to report, that they have examined into the facts stated in the said petition, and that they have viewed and considered the account of the said petitioner against the state, and are of opinion that the said account ought to be finally settled and adjusted by the auditor in the ordinary way, there being no ground to induce the general assembly to interfere and direct a mode of adjustment different from the usual and accustomed one.

Your committee are also of opinion, that as to the land purchased by the said Cumberland Dugan of the commissioners of confiscated British property, provision has already been made by an act of assembly, entitled, An act for the speedy adjustment of sundry purchases of British property, passed at November session, 1786.

All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

A. GOLDR, clk.

Which was read.

On the second reading of the memorial of Fielder Bowie, agreeably to the order of the day, the house took the same into consideration, and after hearing the remonstrant and the sitting member, Mr. Robert Bowie withdrew, and the question was put, That Robert Bowie, Esquire, being a collector of public taxes for Prince-George's county at the time of the election of delegates for said county, and still holding the said office of collector, is entitled to a seat in this house? Determined unanimously in the negative.

Mr. R. Bowie appeared at the bar of the house. ORDERED, That Mr. Speaker acquaint Mr. R. Bowie of the resolution of the house, and inform him, that he is discharged from any further attendance as a member of this house ; which he did accordingly.

ORDERED, That Mr. Speaker issue his warrant to the sheriff of Prince-George's county, for electing a delegate for said county in the room of Mr. R. Bowie, whose seat is vacated ; which issued accordingly, returnable on or before the first day of December next.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill ascertaining the mode of trial in certain cases. ORDERED, That Mr. W. Tilghman, Mr. Murray, Mr. Comegys, Mr. Potts and Mr. Duvall, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Richard Ridgely, Esquire, from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message :