

RESOLVED, That this house will, on to-morrow morning at the meeting of the house, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to consider further of the same.

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

S A T U R D A Y, November 29, 1788.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Blake appeared in the house.

A petition from James Bratten, and others, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Waggonman, Mr. Polk, Mr. Matthews, Mr. Shaw and Mr. W. Purnell, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Patrick Hamilton, of Cæcil county, setting forth, that a number of charges which he could have made against the state, did not come to his knowledge till after he passed his bond to the late intendant of the revenue for the balance he owed as collector of taxes, and praying the auditor may be empowered to examine the said charges, and if any part of them appear to be just, the treasurer of the western shore may be directed to credit his bond with the same; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Dent, Mr. O'Neale and Mr. J. Tilghman, to consider and report thereon.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Francis Clements, of Montgomery county, beg leave to report, that they have considered the allegations therein set forth, and that they appear to be true. Your committee are of opinion that a new certificate should be issued to the petitioner, of the same tenor and purport as the certificate mentioned in the said petition to be lost, bearing interest from the second day of September, seventeen hundred and eighty-four, upon bond, with sufficient security, being given to indemnify this state in case the said certificate so alleged to have been lost shall hereafter appear to be paid. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

T. PURDY, clk.

Which was read.

A petition from William Morris and Benjamin F. A. C. Dashiell, of Somerset county, stating, that William Morris and Joseph Dashiell, deceased, became bound to the state of Maryland, as securities for a certain John Mitchell, for the sum of £. 298 5 6 sterling; that the said Mitchell is since dead; and that they are apprehensive, before they may be called on by the state for payment, the estate of the deceased may be disposed of to their injury; and praying the treasurer of the western shore may be directed to issue execution against the lands and tenements of the said John Mitchell, deceased, for the payment of the said debt; was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed on the petition of James Bratten and others.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the memorial of the society of people called Quakers, beg leave to report, that they have considered the matter contained in the said memorial, and find the same to be well worthy the attention of the legislature. They are of opinion that experience has pointed out that such laws are inadequate to the purposes for which they are intended—that they are neither directed by policy nor warranted by justice. The committee are of opinion that it is improper and unjust that any person, influenced by motives of religion or humanity, should be debarred the power of manumitting such slaves as may be their property, at any time whatever, by deed or last will and testament; wherefore your committee are of opinion, that the third section of an act, entitled, An act to prevent disabled and superannuated slaves being set free, or the manumission of slaves by last will and testament, be repealed, saving the rights of creditors acquired under the laws of the land. Your committee are of opinion that it is inconsistent with the Divine Will, and repugnant to the immutable principles of justice, that a penalty should be inflicted on the child for the offence of the parents, and therefore think that the twenty-sixth, twenty-seventh, and twenty-eighth sections of the act relating to servants and slaves, passed in the year seventeen hundred and fifteen, so far as the same respects or relates to the issue of such inordinate copulations mentioned in the above sections, be repealed, saving and reserving to all persons all rights and interests acquired under the said parts of the said act—and that an act, entitled, A supplementary act to the act, entitled, An act relating to servants and slaves, passed in the year seventeen hundred and twenty-eight, be repealed, saving all rights acquired under said act. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. KNAPP, clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Craufurd has leave of absence till Monday next.

On motion, ORDERED, That the report on the memorial of the society of the people called Quakers, have a second reading on Tuesday the ninth of December next.

Agreeably to order, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole; Mr. Dent in the chair. After some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Chairman reported, that the committee had, according to order, taken into their consideration the subject matter referred to them, but not having had time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

RESOLVED, That this house will, on Monday morning at the meeting of the house, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to consider further of the same.

The house adjourns till Monday morning 9 o'clock.