

Mr. Ridgely, of William, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report :

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of James Gittings, John Gorfuch and John Merryman, of Baltimore county, beg leave to report, that they have examined the facts contained in the said petition, and find them to be true, therefore are of opinion a law ought to pass, authorizing the register of the land office to receive into his office their certificates as being regularly surveyed and returned, and that patents be granted thereon, they paying the usual fees of office. Your committee further beg leave to suggest the propriety of adding a general clause to said law, where any leased or vacant lands lie contiguous to the purchases made of the late intendant, and where any leased or vacant lands lie contiguous to the purchases made of the late intendant, and having contracted with the intendant for the same, it shall be lawful for the county surveyors respectively, or where special surveyors have been appointed, on a warrant of resurvey, to include such leased or vacant land contracted as aforesaid; which resurvey, duly certified and returned by the county surveyors respectively, or by the special surveyors, to the land office, shall be received and accepted of as duly made and returned, and patented accordingly, on the payment of the purchase money, and the usual expences attending the same. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

T. PURDY, clk.

Mr. W. M'Pherson, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following resolution :

RESOLVED, That the commissioners of the tax for Charles county be authorized to hear and ascertain what insolvencies existed on the books in the possession of Bennett Hamilton, one of the securities of Edward Green, late deputy-collector, antecedent to the time in which a settlement by law ought to have taken place between Charles Mankin as collector and the said commissioners, and to make such allowance to the said Hamilton in his account with his principal; and the treasurer of the western shore is hereby empowered to pass whatever allowance may be made by the said commissioners for insolvencies to the credit of the said Charles Mankin.

Which was read the first and second time, assented to, and sent to the senate by Mr. W. M'Pherson.

ORDERED, That the deposition of Daniel Bowley, Esquire, be taken, and read on the hearing of the petition against the late Baltimore election, on notice of time and place to the counsel for the sitting members.

ORDERED, That the deposition of David Harris, Esquire, be taken, and read in evidence (if he should not be able to attend) on notice of time and place as above directed.

The order of the day, respecting the election of Baltimore-town, is postponed till Tuesday next.

Mr. Faw, 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 of hay from Thomas Cockey Deye, Esquire, and that the said quantity 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, so 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 ton for 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 the 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,

A. GOLDRER, clk.

Which was read.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Thomas Smyth, of Kent county, beg leave to report it as their opinion, that a resolution should pass, empowering and requesting the governor and council to appoint some fit and proper person to make a valuation, upon oath, of all the property of Sir Robert Eden, which has been retained by the state for the use of the governor for the time being, according to the probable worth thereof at the time of the original retainer, and such