

A petition from Philip Waters, of Baltimore county, stating that he came into this country in the year 1786, with an intention of settling and becoming a citizen of this state; that he purchased, and had conveyed to him, considerable real property, and that not having been naturalised previous to said purchases, a considerable part thereof hath been escheated; and praying that he may receive such relief as his situation requires, and may be deemed expedient; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. M^r Henry, Mr. Ridgely, of Wm. Mr. B. Worthington, Mr. Craik and Mr. J. Tilghman, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Francis Clements, of Montgomery county, stating that he received a certificate from the state, for £. 69 10 3 specie, which he unfortunately lost; and praying relief in the premises; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Seney, Mr. Oneale and Mr. Bayly, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Francis Clement Dyer, praying an act may pass to empower and enable Harriot Clagett, administratrix of William Clagett, deceased, to reconvey certain lands to the said Dyer, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Pinkney, Mr. R. Bowie and Mr. Lowes, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. U. Forrest appeared in the house.

A petition from John Love and Benjamin Bradford Norris, stating that they became securities for Samuel Groome Osborn, collector of the tax for 1786; that the said Osborn is considerably in arrears; that they have now in their possession, ready to be paid as a credit against the said arrears, about £. 600; that fieri facias has issued against, and been laid on, their property, for said arrears; and praying, upon payment of the said £. 600, the said fieri facias may be suspended, and they authorised to discharge the said balance in state certificates, and to be indulged with a reasonable time for that purpose; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Ridgely, of Wm. Mr. Hopewell and Mr. K. Bowie, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from John Swan, Daniel Jenifer and George Scott, praying an act may pass empowering the register of the land-office to issue patents for Cattle Hill and Both Ends the Bush, as rectified by Thomas Brooke, late surveyor of Washington county; and that the present surveyor may be directed to make a certificate agreeably to the field notes of Deer Park; and that a patent may issue on the same, when returned to the land-office; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Digges, Mr. M^r Pheron and Mr. Seney, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Henry Miccoy, of Charles county, stating that he was appointed deputy-collector of the taxes under Charles Mankin; that he gave security for the true performance of his duty; that finding it inconvenient, he transferred the same to a certain Edward Scott Ware, who gave Edward Jenkins as security to him; that Ware and Jenkins have since become insolvent, and the said Jenkins has the books of balances in his possession; and praying to be empowered to take the said books, and to collect the balances; was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. M^r Pheron, Mr. Craik and Mr. Stewart, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Craik brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to empower the administrator de bonis non of Richard Lee, late of Charles county, deceased, and the administrator de bonis non of Philip Thomas Lee, deceased, to sell such parts of the said estates, on credit, as may be necessary for the payment of the debts due from the said respective intestates, and to enable the said administrator to make a distribution of the estate of the said Philip Thomas Lee among his representatives; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from John Sheridan, late a soldier in the Maryland line, praying the depreciation of his pay, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed on petitions of a similar nature.

A petition from Robert Peter, of George-town, respecting lands, as tenant in common with Adam Stewart, which became liable to confiscation, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. U. Forrest, Mr. Seney, Mr. Burges, Mr. Oneale and Mr. Love, to consider and report thereon.

A memorial from Francis Deakins, of Montgomery county, respecting his claim against the state for laying out the lands to the westward of Fort Cumberland, agreeably to a resolution passed April session, seventeen hundred and eighty-seven, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Seney, Mr. U. Forrest, Mr. Ridgely, of Wm. Mr. B. Worthington, Mr. Oneale and Mr. Sterett, to consider and report thereon.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the memorial of Samuel Chase, beg leave to report, that they have considered the said memorial; that the facts therein stated appear to your committee to be true; and that Thomas Dorsey, mentioned in the said memorial, hath given his approbation and consent, in writing, that a law should pass according to the prayer in the said memorial; and that your committee are of opinion that it is reasonable and proper for the general assembly to grant the prayer of the said memorial, and to pass a law accordingly. All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

By order,

A. GOLDER, 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 a petition from sundry members of a society for promoting the abolition of slavery, as also a petition and address from the people called Quakers, beg leave to report, that, in their opinion, the objects of the said petition well deserve the attentive consideration of the legislature. The committee beg leave to suggest, that to impose restrictions on the voluntary emancipation of slaves, is neither dictated by policy nor reconcileable with justice; that as it ought to be the wish of every free community to produce the abolition of civil slavery, and as both a sudden