

The resolution respecting the retaining in the treasurer's hands the money paid on account of arrearages of taxes, endorsed; "By the senate, November 18, 1790: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order, H. RIDGELY, jun. clk.

"By the senate, November 19, 1790: Read the second time and dissented to.

"By order, H. RIDGELY, jun. clk."

And a resolution respecting the retaining in the treasurer's hands the money paid on account of arrearages of taxes, endorsed; "By the senate, November 19, 1790: Read the first and second time by especial order and assented to.

"By order, H. RIDGELY, jun. clk."

The report on the petition of James Hutchings, was read the second time and concurred with.

John Smith, Esquire, from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the resolution in favour of Robert Britt, and others, endorsed; "By the senate, November 20, 1790: Read the first and second time by especial order and assented to.

"By order, H. RIDGELY, jun. clk."

The report on the petitions of sundry inhabitants of Caroline county, was read the second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Walker, Mr. Downes, and Mr. Douglass, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Duvall, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, NOVEMBER 20, 1790.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

THIS house concur with your honours in the opinion that there are some defects in our constitution and form of government which ought to be remedied; and we think the mode proposed by your honours, that a joint committee of both houses should be appointed to revise the constitution, most proper to be adopted. This house have appointed Mr. Brice Worthington, Mr. Duvall, Mr. Stone, Mr. Tilghman, Mr. Forrest, Mr. Craik, and Mr. Burgess, to join the members nominated by your honours to effect the salutary purpose.

By order, W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, agreed to, and sent to the senate by Mr. Bayly.

Mr. Winder, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the speedy conveyance of public letters and packets, and for other purposes; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Levin Hopkins, report, that they find, from the papers and vouchers exhibited to them, that the said Levin Hopkins was one of the securities for the administration of the estate of Levi Hopkins, and that the said Levin Hopkins, from the estate being likely to be wasted, took, by order of the court, the estate into his own hands, and paid the sum of twenty-two pounds eighteen shillings and seven-pence beyond the amount of the personal estate which he could find; they are therefore of opinion that an act should pass, empowering the said Levin Hopkins to sell the real estate of the said Levi Hopkins so far as may be necessary to settle his own claim, and the claim of a certain Daniel Mifflin, whose account has been exhibited to us legally proved, as it appears doubtful whether the petitioner can have any remedy either in law or equity. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order, A. GOLDER, clk.

Which was read.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of John Smith Brookes, report, that they have examined into the subject thereof, and find that the petitioner and Thomas Harwood, the 3d, became securities, on the 9th of February, 1781, for Thomas Williams, as collector of the public taxes for Prince-George's county, and that the tax for which the petitioner so became security, was imposed by the act to raise the supplies for the year 1781, passed at October session, 1780; the committee further find, that by a supplement to the aforesaid act, (passed at May session, 1781,) an additional tax was imposed of fifteen shillings in the hundred pounds, and that by the 18th section of the supplement, the commissioners of the tax were empowered to continue or appoint collectors to carry it into execution; in consequence whereof, the commissioners of Prince-George's county continued Mr. Williams as collector of the said 15s tax, but omitted to take security in the usual manner. The committee further report, that although it is plain and evident the securities in the bond aforesaid, were not responsible for the said 15s tax imposed subsequent to the execution of their bond, and not within their engagement, yet as both the taxes aforesaid were on the books of the treasury carried to Mr. Williams's account for the year 1781, and as no security was taken for the supplemental 15s tax, the petitioner and Mr. Harwood were erroneously supposed to be answerable for both.

The committee further report, that under this mistaken idea, the petitioner executed a bond for £. 3400 to the state on the 29th day of December, 1786, as in his petition is stated, and hath since that time regularly paid the interest thereon, and hath also installed agreeably to the act of the last session.

The committee further report, that the balance actually due on the first mentioned tax, as appears by the treasury books, at the time of executing the bond last aforesaid, was only £. 3868 8 4, which sum hath been discharged, except the sum of £. 3400 bonded for by the petitioner; but the committee, under all the circumstances, are clearly of opinion, that as this subsequent engagement originated in misapprehension, and under an idea that the petitioner's responsibility extended to both the taxes