

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Benjamin Nicholson, of Baltimore county, report, that they have taken the subject of the petition into consideration, and find that the said Benjamin Nicholson paid to the treasurer of the western shore a large quantity of final settlement certificates in discharge of a debt due for the purchase of the Nottingham Forges; that the said certificates had interest due on them for a sum of money more than sufficient to discharge the debt, and more than was required by law; but the treasurer aforesaid did not conceive himself authorized to refund the surplus paid under the resolution. Your committee therefore recommend that a resolution should pass directing the treasurer of the western shore to liquidate the surplus interest aforesaid, and pay him indents for the balance; and that all persons in similar situations should have the like relief. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. WINCHESTER, jun. clk.

Which was read.

Mr. M'Mechen brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to enable the commissioners of Hanover market, in Baltimore-town, to sell part of the said market-house, and ground thereto adjoining; which was read the first and second time by especial order, passed, and sent to the senate by Mr. Douglass.

A petition from Harriett Bruce, of Montgomery county, praying to be divorced from her husband, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Forrest, Mr. Crabb, Mr. Oneale, and Mr. Martin, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Wilkinon, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of the poor of Calvert county; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

On the second reading the message respecting the marriage of Hercules Courtenay, of Baltimore-town, and the bill to repeal so much of the act concerning marriages as is therein mentioned, the following question was propounded, viz. That the house reconsider the bill concerning marriages? The previous question was called for and put, That the said question be now put? Determined in the negative.

On the second reading the report on the petition of Mountjoy Bayly, RESOLVED, That the governor and the council draw an order on the treasurer of the western shore in favour of Mountjoy Bayly, for the balance appearing to be due to him as major-commandant of the militia and guard over the British prisoners in 1781 and 1782, at Frederick-town, in Frederick county, with interest thereon from the first day of January, 1783, the amount to be stated by the auditor-general, and the balance charged to the United States, and that the said treasurer issue a certificate therefor.

Sent to the senate by Mr. Rochester.

A petition from Joseph Parker, of Cæcil county, praying that a patent may issue to him for part of the East Nottingham lands, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. R. Bond, Mr. Lethbury, and Mr. Ridgely, to consider and report thereon.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Robert Peter, report, that they have examined the allegations therein stated, and are of opinion that the petitioner is entitled to a discount of one third of the purchase money. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

W. E. SEWELL, clk.

Which was read.

A petition from John Barkley, praying a restoration of property, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Forrest, Mr. Oneale, and Mr. N. Worthington, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Leonard Smith, and sundry inhabitants of Frederick and Washington counties, praying an act may pass to erect a warehouse for the inspection of tobacco in the town of Berlin, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Stone, Mr. Forrest, and Mr. Oneale, to consider and report thereon.

The bill for the suppression of fairs throughout this state, was read the second time, and passed with the proposed amendments.

Amendments proposed. In the 2d page, 7th line, after the word "state," insert "or selling meat, drink, or other refreshments." Same page, 12th line, after the word "prohibited," insert the following words: "And that nothing in this act shall affect or invalidate any charter or privilege granted by law to any city, town or body corporate, in this state."

The report on the petition of Levin Hopkins, was read the second time, and the question put, That the house concur therewith? Determined in the negative.

On motion the question was put, That the house assent to the following proposition? viz.

Whereas Henry Ennalls, Nathan Wright and Thomas Colsten, junior, of Dorchester county, by their humble petition to this general assembly have set forth, that they became answerable to the state of Maryland, as securities of John Stevens, late collector of the county aforesaid, for the faithful collection and payment of the taxes of said county to the treasurer of the eastern shore: And whereas the said Henry Ennalls, Nathan Wright and Thomas Colsten, having paid to the said treasurer the full amount of the principal due on said collection, have prayed to be released from the payment of the interest due on said principal; and this general assembly think proper to accede to the prayer of said petition, RESOLVED, That the said Henry Ennalls, Nathan Wright and Thomas Colsten, junior, be and they are hereby released from the payment of the interest due on the principal of said Stevens's collection, provided that the said John Stevens shall return to the treasurer of the eastern shore a correct list, on oath, of all such persons from whom he has collected interest, and the amount thereof, and pay the same to the said treasurer before the said Henry Ennalls, Nathan Wright and Thomas