

That on the first day of January, 1746, Benjamin Tasker, Esquire, then agent of the lord proprietary, did, by lease, demise to Benjamin Chew, of Cæcil county, 360 acres of land, part of Sufquehanna or Connaught Manor, in said county, at the yearly rent of thirty-six shillings sterling, for and during the lives of Benjamin Chew, Elizabeth Chew and Phineas Chew, with a covenant therein contained, granting liberty to the heir or heirs of the said Benjamin Chew, the lessee, to renew the said lease for ever, on the payment of the like yearly rent, and the like sum on every renewal, for and during the life or lives of the said heir or heirs, under such covenants as are contained in the lease aforesaid.

That on the death of Benjamin Chew, the lessee, which happened about thirty years ago, his son Benjamin possessed the demised premises until his death, which happened upwards of twenty years ago, and his widow intermarried with Edward Dougherty, who resided thereon until his death; that the said Benjamin, the son of the lessee, left a son by the name of Samuel Chew, who was the father of Cassandra Chew, who intermarried with the petitioner; that Samuel Chew died about the year 1776, without having renewed the lease aforesaid, upon the extinction of the lives for and during which the said lease was granted, the last of which, from the best information offered to the committee, died in the year 1771, and that no renewal of the lease before mentioned has ever been made by any of the heirs of the lessee.

The committee further report, that the reversion in the demised premises being in a British subject, the same became subject to confiscation by the late act for the seizure and confiscation of British property, and on the seventh day of June, 1792, the agent of this state sold the state's right thereto to Nathaniel Chew, of Cæcil county, for £. 270, who passed his bond with security for that sum, payable to the state.

From the foregoing state of facts it is obvious, that the subject is of considerable intricacy. The agent having sold the right of the state under the authority of law, the dispute at present rests between the petitioner and the purchaser of the agent, and the committee doubt the propriety of the interference of the legislature.

All which is submitted to the consideration of the honourable house.

By order,

J. WILMER, clk.

Which was read.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Edward Abell, of St. Mary's county, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and find the facts therein stated true; therefore they leave to submit the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the register of the land-office for the western shore, on payment of the usual fees, be and he is hereby authorized and directed to grant to Edward Abell, of St. Mary's county, a patent for the two lots of land situate and lying in Mill Manor, in St. Mary's county, which were purchased of the commissioners of confiscated property by Michael Beverly, of the said county, provided the said Abell will pay to the treasurer of the western shore the sum of eleven pounds two shillings and four-pence, in specie or specie certificates.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read.

On motion, ORDERED, That Mr. Duvall and Mr. Sappington be added to the committee on the petition of Peter Jennings.

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

F R I D A Y, November 16, 1792.

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

The report on the petition of James Polk, was read the second time, and leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, A Supplement to the act to restrain surveyors, &c. ORDERED, That Mr. Sprigg, Mr. Davall and Mr. Denwood, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a further supplement to the act respecting the settlers on the reserved lands westward of Fort Cumberland. ORDERED, That Mr. Johnson, Mr. Bayard and Mr. Beall, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Simon Wickes, of Kent county, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and find, that on the 17th day of November, 1784, William Brown purchased of the commissioners of confiscated property 264 acres of land, formerly the property of James Chalmers, of said county, for £. 1716, and gave bond for that sum, with the aforesaid Simon Wickes his security, and payments have been made as stated by the petitioner; that at the time of the sale, a crop of wheat had been put in the ground on the tenement by John Lowman, then in possession of the same, as tenant at will, and the purchaser, at the time of bidding, conceived that he would have been entitled, under the purchase, to the wheat then growing on the tenement, of which he took possession in consequence of the purchase; that Lowman, in the time of harvest in the ensuing year, brought a number of persons to assist him in the cutting and securing the wheat, and did actually cut and secure part thereof, and sold it, and applied the money to his own use; the remainder was cut and secured by the purchaser.

The committee further report, that they have no positive proof as to the precise quantity of grain sowed, or cut and taken away, as aforesaid, but they are of opinion that testimony ought to be procured