

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of fundry inhabitants of Dorchester county, praying an act may pass, enabling them to bank across Firm creek, for the purpose of draining their lands, do report; that they have taken the same into consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer thereof is reasonable, but for want of the necessary notice required by law, cannot be granted.

By order,

J. W. KING, clk.

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with.

Mr. Richard Alexander Contee, a delegate returned for Prince-George's county, appeared, and after qualifying in the mode prescribed by the constitution and form of government, and taking the oath to support the constitution of the United States, took his seat in the house.

Mr. M'Pherson, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the benefit of Joseph Johnson, of Charles county; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled; An act for the building a court-house and gaol for Allegany county, at the town of Cumberland. ORDERED, That Mr. Johnson, Mr. Simkins and Mr. Duvall, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The report on the petition of Anne and Theodore Dent, was read the second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. M'Pherson, Mr. Digges and Mr. Duvall, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to regulate and discipline the militia of this state. ORDERED, That a committee be elected by ballot to bring in the same, and that the number be seven. Upon examining the ballots deposited in the ballot box, it appeared that the following gentlemen were elected, viz. Mr. Duvall, Mr. Sprigg, Mr. Cox, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Nelson, Mr. M'Mechen and Mr. Bayly.

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

THE committee of elections and privileges report, that Joseph Douglafs, Thomas Wynn Loockerman, Joshua Driver and Thomas Hughlett, Esquires, are duly elected delegates for Caroline county. Which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. W. KING, clk.

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with.

The report of the committee of elections and privileges, was read the second time and concurred with.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Samuel Handy, guardian of the legatees of John Rousby Whittington, have considered the same, and beg leave to report to the honourable house, that an act passed at November session, 1779, chap. 32, for the purpose of procuring supplies of flour and other provisions for the use of the army, by virtue of which act commissioners were appointed to contract for and purchase provisions, and rent houses for storing and safe-keeping the same, and the faith of the state was pledged by the 8th section thereof to pay the price agreed upon by the said commissioners, with six per cent. interest thereon; that at June session, 1780, an act passed, chap. 21, enabling the governor and council to appoint persons to procure provisions of salt meat for the use of the army, on the same terms and under the same regulations contained in the act of November session, 1779, chapter 32; that in virtue of the said act of 1780, ch. 21, col. Chaille, appointed to act in Worcester county, did rent, at the rate of £. 19 per annum, and take possession of, a store-house, the property of John Rousby Whittington, in the said petition mentioned.

That the said John Rousby Whittington died in the year 1788, a minor, and by his will bequeathed his personal estate to the persons mentioned in said petition, the wards of the said Samuel Handy the petitioner, all of whom are yet under age.

That an act passed in the year 1785, ch. 20, barring all claims against the state similar to that referred to the consideration of this committee, but with exceptions therein, saving to infants all their rights, by virtue of which exceptions the case of the petitioner is taken out of the operation of the said act.

That one year's rent has been paid by col. Chaille, leaving a balance of £. 38 currency, bearing interest of 6 per cent. from 1st January, 1783, on the sum of £. 19, and interest from 1st January, 1784, on the further sum of £. 19, in the whole amounting, principal and interest, to the sum of £. 61 18 7. From all which facts the committee are of opinion, that the faith of the state is pledged to the wards of the petitioner to pay the said sum of £. 61 18 7, and beg leave to submit the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the treasurer of the western or eastern shore pay to Samuel Handy, guardian of Robert Jenkins, Henry Handy, Samuel Handy, Gertrude Handy and Nancy Handy, and for their use, the sum of £. 61 18 7, out of any unappropriated money in either of the said treasuries.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read.

On motion, the question was put, That the bill to alter and repeal part of the act, entitled, A Supplement to the act, entitled, An act directing the time, places and manner, of holding elections for representatives of this state in the congress of the United States, and for appointing electors on the part of this state for choosing a president and vice-president of the United States, and for the regulation of the said elections, and also to repeal the act of assembly therein mentioned, referred from the last to the present session, have a first reading? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Ridgely, of Wm. appeared as follow:

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