

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, November, 1797.

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THE committee to whom was referred the petition of the select vestry of Saint-Paul's parish, lying partly in Queen-Anne's and partly in Talbot counties, praying an act may pass authorising a lottery to raise a sum of money for the purchase of a glebe, and parsonage-house, beg leave to report, that it is the opinion of your committee, that the members of the several religious congregations in the state should support their respective clergy by voluntary contributions for that purpose; that in the present instance, the raising a sum of money, by lottery, would entirely depend on the inclination of those who might think proper to become adventurers, and that the granting the prayer of the petition would contribute to the interests of society.

By order,

J. F. HARRIS, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Harwood, Mr. C. Frazier, Mr. T. Buchanan and Mr. Clarke, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The report on the petition of the episcopal and presbyterian congregations in George-town, was read the second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Chapman, Mr. Swailes, Mr. Thomas, of Frederick, Mr. Duckett and Mr. P. Magruder, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Duckett, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Nottingham, in Prince-George's county, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer of said petition ought to be granted.

By order,

J. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Calvert, Mr. Duckett and Mr. Brogden, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of the upper part of Allegany county, praying that a law may pass to restrain the inhabitants of Virginia from driving cattle and other stock through their settlements, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Clarke, Mr. Bruce and Mr. J. C. Thomas, to consider and report thereon.

The house adjourns till Monday morning 9 o'clock.

M O N D A Y, November 13, 1797.

THE house met. Present the same members as on Saturday. Mr. Charles Goldsborough, a delegate returned for Dorchester county, Mr. James Brown, a delegate returned for Queen-Anne's county, Mr. Cornelius Comegys, a delegate returned for Kent county, and Mr. William Potter, a delegate returned for Caroline 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 their seats in the house.

The honourable James Carroll, Esquire, having resigned his seat as speaker of the house of delegates, the house proceeded to fill the vacancy by ballot, and the ballots being deposited in the ballot box, the gentlemen named to strike retired, and after some time reported, that the honourable William Thomas, Esquire, was unanimously elected.

The proceedings of Saturday were read.

Mr. Godman, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of James Brittain, and Alice his wife, of Anne-Arundel county, beg leave to report, that they have taken the same into their consideration, and are of opinion, that from the age and infirmities of said petitioners that a law ought to pass in their favour as prayed for. All which is submitted.

By order,

R. K. WATTS, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Brogden, Mr. Godman and Mr. Riley, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Abraham Jarrett, a delegate returned for Harford 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. Nicholson, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Matthew Hawkins, and others, securities of Thomas O'Bryon, a former sheriff of Queen-Anne's county, praying that the time limited by an act passed at the last session of assembly, authorising them to collect balances due the said sheriff, may be extended, report, that they have inquired into the several facts stated in the petition, and are of opinion that the peculiar circumstances of the case would warrant the legislature in granting the prayer of the petitioners.

By order,

J. F. HARRIS, clk.

Which was read.

A petition from Mary Goodrich, of Saint-Mary's county, praying the justices of the said county may be empowered to levy a sum of money annually on the inhabitants of said county for the support of her daughter Elizabeth, an idiot, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Plowden, Mr. Leigh and Mr. Swailes, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Clarke, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom the petition of sundry inhabitants of Allegany county was referred, beg leave to report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer of the said petition ought to be granted, and that a law ought to pass to empower the field officers of said county