

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Baltimore county, stating, that they labour under great inconveniencies in being obliged to attend as jurymen and witnesses in the criminal and civil courts of the city of Baltimore, and praying a separation of the business, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed on a petition of a similar nature.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to enlarge the equity jurisdiction of the county courts, and to regulate the practice therein. ORDERED, That Mr. Wilson, Mr. Warfield, Mr. Rackliff, Mr. Robins, Mr. Taney, Mr. Key and Mr. Nicholson, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The petition of the vestrymen and wardens of Shrewsbury parish, in Kent county, referred from the last to the present session, was read, and referred to Mr. Comegys, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. E. Brown and Mr. Page, to consider and report thereon.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a supplement to the act for marking and bounding lands. ORDERED, That Mr. Godman, Mr. J. C. Thomas and Mr. S. Frazier, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Robert Smithy, praying an act of insolvency, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioner 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. P. Magruder, Mr. R. Magruder and Mr. Swailes, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

A petition from Sarah Bull, of Harford county, stating, that she purchased certain lands sold by the sheriff of Harford county, the property of a certain William Bull, and paid for the same; that the said sheriff died without conveying the said property, and praying relief in the premises, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Bond, Mr. Key and Mr. Jarrett, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Henry Hill Carroll, of Baltimore county, praying to be relieved by law in the assessment and valuation of certain lease-hold property, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Robins, Mr. Merryman and Mr. J. Buchanan, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Catherine Havis, of Prince-George's county, stating, that she has a number of afflicted children which she is unable to support, and praying a reasonable maintenance for the same, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Duckett, Mr. Calvert and Mr. Addison, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Richard Tilghman, and others, of Queen-Anne's county, praying to be authorized to raise by lottery a sum of money to reimburse them for monies expended in erecting a church and repairing Wye chapel, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Kerr, Mr. Brown, Mr. Key and Mr. Duckett, to consider and report thereon.

The house proceeded to ballot for a committee clerk, and the ballots being deposited in the ballot box, the gentlemen named to strike reported, that Mr. Archibald Golder was elected.

ORDERED, That he be qualified.

A petition from Legh Hoskins Master, guardian to Charles Legh Hoskins Master, a minor, praying the chancellor may be empowered to nominate trustees to sell the real estate of the said minor for the purpose of discharging the debts of Legh Master, deceased, and the residue to vest in proper funds, under the direction of the chancellor, for the use and benefit of the said minor, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Robins, Mr. Key and Mr. J. Buchanan, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Nicholson brings in and delivers to the speaker the bill for the relief of Nicholas Sluby, of the city of Baltimore, as amended; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. C. Frazier, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act supplemental to the act, entitled, An act permitting the proprietors of lots binding on the water at the west end of the basin in Baltimore-town to extend and improve the same; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The bill relating to the militia of Allegany county was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. Chapman, from the committee of claims, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

By the COMMITTEE of CLAIMS.

YOUR committee beg leave to report, that they have examined the accounts and proceedings of Thomas Harwood, Esquire, treasurer of the western shore, and find, by an account settled by the committee of claims to the first day of November, 1796, there was a balance of £. 51,980 12 4½ specie, 337,381 dollars 92 cents funded 6 per cent. stock, 259,929 dollars 79 cents funded 3 per cent. stock, and 60,614 dollars 79 cents deferred 6 per cent. stock, remaining in the treasury.

That it appears to your committee, by the accounts of said treasurer, he hath received, for escheats, and improvements on land certificates, £. 8,900 15 8½ specie. For taxes, under the act for establishing and securing the salary to the chancellor, £. 803 13 1 specie. For confiscated property, £. 181 dollars 49 cents funded 6 per cent. stock, 1711 dollars 79 cents deferred 6 per cent. stock, £. 67 3 2½ certificates for debts against persons convicted of treason, interest on said certificates £. 10 10 6, and £. 326 2 5 specie. For militia fines £. 10 0 0 specie. From the treasurer of the western shore £. 2,196 17 8½ specie. From William Marbury, for a balance due from him on the auditor's books, £. 3,635 12 6 specie. From the commissioners of the city of Washington, for dividends of interest, £. 1,687 10 0 specie. From the executors of captain John Stuart, on account, £. 10 11 6 specie. From William Marbury 47,825 dollars 73 cents funded 6 per cent. stock, purchased by him. From Benjamin Harwood, trustee, for dividends of interest and principal on stock, £. 12,505 4 2 specie; and from John Stricker, on account of arms, &c. sold by him, £. 76 18 5.

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