

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Prince-George's county, praying they may be authorized to raise by lottery a sum of money for the purpose of clearing the creek leading to Marlborough, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Duckett, Mr. J. C. Thomas and Mr. Calvert, to consider and report thereon.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill for the relief of Nicholas Sluby, of the city of Baltimore, endorsed; "By the senate, November 20, 1797: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

A. VAN-HORN, clk.

"By the senate, November 22, 1797: Read the second time and will pass with the proposed amendments.

"By order,

A. VAN-HORN, clk."

Amendments proposed. In the 10th line of the 7th page strike out from the word "creditors" to the word "as" in the 11th line of the same page. At the end of the bill insert, "Provided that foreign creditors, not residing in the United States, and not having agents or attorneys residing therein, duly empowered to act in their behalf, shall not be considered within the intent and meaning of this clause."

Which were read.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

T H U R S D A Y, November 23, 1797.

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

The speaker laid before the house the following report:

To the honourable The GENERAL ASSEMBLY of MARYLAND.

THE auditor begs leave to lay before your honours the following accounts, viz.

No. 1, Contains a statement of the western shore treasurer's account, as charged on the auditor's books, from the first of November, 1796, to the first of November, 1797.

No. 2, Is an estimate of the state debt, made up to the first of November, 1797, by which it appears there is 843,291 dollars and 99 cents in stock of the United States, and also £. 55,580 14 3 current money, to the credit of the state of Maryland.

He has the honour to be, with respect, gentlemen,

Your obedient humble servant,

ROBERT DENNY, Aud. Gen.

Auditor's Office, Annapolis, November 22, 1797.

Which was read.

ORDERED, That the printer to the state strike one hundred copies of the said report for the use of the general assembly.

A petition from sundry persons of the city of Baltimore, creditors of Stephen Zacharie, counter to his petition, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed on the petition to which it is counter.

A petition from John Tootell, late sheriff and collector of Dorchester county, praying a further time to complete his collections, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Craig, Mr. Goldsborough and Mr. Pattison, to consider and report thereon.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the letters of the governor of South-Carolina, and the secretary of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, have taken the same into consideration, and are of opinion that an interchange of laws between the sister states of the union may be attended with beneficial consequences, and report the following resolution, as calculated to carry the same into effect.

RESOLVED, That the governor of this state be and he is hereby authorized and requested to send to the executive of the different states who have favoured us with editions of their laws, and who may hereafter transmit them, an equal number of the editions of Bacon's laws, Hanson's laws, and the laws since that period, neatly bound, accompanied by a letter, expressing the sense of the legislature as to the propriety and utility of an interchange of laws.

By order,

S. MAYNARD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, and the resolution therein contained assented to, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

A petition from John Goldsborough, and others, of Dorchester county, praying an increase of officers fees, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill for the regulation of officers and attorneys fees.

A petition from sundry persons, creditors of Robert Smithy, counter to his petition, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed on the petition to which it is counter.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Jane Blair, late of Dorchester county, beg leave to report, that from the information they have received on the subject of the said petition, they have reason to believe that the facts therein stated are true. They further inform the house, that Jane Blair, the petitioner, has removed with her children to reside in the state of Pennsylvania, and that the land mentioned in the said petition consequently is not under the management of any person particularly bound to take care of the same; that from the vicinity thereof to the town of Cambridge, the timber and wood thereon are liable to continual depredations, and before the arrival of the children at age, the land will probably be very materially injured in value. Your committee, though fully sensible of the delicacy and caution which should be observed in disposing of the real property of orphans, will yet venture to express an opinion, that under the peculiar circumstances of this case it will be adviseable to authorize the sale of the said piece of land, and to direct the investment thereof, under proper regulations, in some productive fund, as being most conducive to the interest of the children.

By order,

J. HARWOOD, clk.

Which