

therein stated to be true, are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioner is reasonable, and 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 the committee appointed on the said petition prepare and bring in the same.

RESOLVED, That a printed petition of fundry inhabitants of Baltimore county, praying a repeal of an act passed at the last session of assembly making an alteration in the York turnpike road, so as to pass by the buildings of Ezekiel Towson, and containing reflections on the conduct of particular members of the senate, and on the whole legislature, is highly indecent, and merits the reprobation of this house.

On motion, the question was put on the following, viz. RESOLVED, That the persons employed in draughting and in procuring signatures to the said petitions were guilty of a high breach of the privilege of this house? The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

		A F F I R M A T I V E.					
Messieurs	Leigh, Neale, Dunn, Bourne,	Brome, Parnham, Hyland, Winder,	Steuart, Pattison, Steele,	J. Magruder, Quynn, Nicholson,	C. Frazier, Corbin, Purnell,	Gwinn, Potter, Beall.	20.
			N E G A T I V E.				
Messieurs	Barber, Tilghman, Harwood, Hall, Tancy, T. Buchanan	E. Brown, Ridgely, Lemmon, Sherwood, Nabb,	Benson, Jones, Miller, Hollingsworth, Addison,	Duckett, J. Brown, Wright, E. K. Wilson, Warfield,	Jarrett, M'Comas, Montgomery, A. Buchanan, Kerfner,	Cellar, Geoghegan, Summers, Riley, Simkins.	21.

So it was determined in the negative.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill for appointing commissioners to contract for and purchase the lands commonly called the Choptank Indian lands, in Dorchester county, and for appropriating the same to the use of this state, and to repeal the act of assembly therein mentioned, endorsed; "By the senate, December 8, 1798: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table."

"By order,

A. VAN-HORN, clk.

"By the senate, December 21, 1798: Read the second time and will pass with the proposed amendments."

"By order,

A. VAN-HORN, clk."

Amendments proposed. After the title of the bill insert, "Whereas it is represented to this general assembly, that the lands in Dorchester county, heretofore granted to the Choptank Indians, have been much injured and abused by tenants placed upon said lands by Indians claiming title to the same: And whereas doubts are entertained whether the grant of said lands has not ceased, and the right thereof reverted to the state." Strike out from the word "that" in the 5th line of the 1st page to the end of the 6th line of the same page, and insert "William Perry, Henry Waggaman and William Marbury, Esquires." In the 13th line of the same page strike out the word "county" and insert the word "state." In the 8th line of the 2d page, after the word "of" strike out to the word "Indians" inclusive in the 10th line of the same page, and insert "the right, title and interest, of the said Indians, to all and singular the lands and tenements aforesaid." In the 8th line of the 3d page strike out the word "three" and insert the word "one." Strike out the word "their" at the end of the 12th line of the same page, and the word "tribe" at the beginning of the 13th line, and in lieu thereof insert the words "they, or any of them, or their descendants." Strike out from the word "and" in the 13th line of the 3d page to the end of the enacting clause, and insert "the said commissioners, or a majority of them, may agree to pay each individual of the said Indians who now claims title to, and receives rents from, said lands, such annuity as may be agreed upon between said commissioners and said Indians, provided that the aggregate amount of such annuities shall not exceed the sum of six hundred dollars; and such annuities shall be payable for their use quarterly, out of the treasury of the western shore, to the orders of such persons, or friends, as the said Indians may respectively from time to time appoint to draw the same, and that the said annuity shall commence on the first day of January next ensuing the date of such agreement; and the annuity allowed to any Indian as aforesaid shall, upon the death of said Indian, descend and be paid such person or persons as under the laws of this state would be entitled to have the personal estate of said Indian, in case said Indian died intestate, leaving personal estate, and be transmitted in same manner; provided, that no annuity shall be transmitted to any but the immediate descendants of the Indian to whom granted, and that upon the death of any of the said Indians, or their descendants, without any representative as aforesaid, the annuity in such case granted shall cease." In the 4th line of the 6th page, after the word "commissioners" insert the words "or a majority of them." In the 13th line of the 4th page strike out the words "their tribe" and insert "the Indians claiming title to said lands and receiving rents therefor." In the 13th line of the 9th page strike out the word "twelve" and insert the word "eight." In the 7th line of the 10th page strike out the word "approved" and insert the word "such." In the same line of the same page, after the word "security" insert the words "as the said agent may approve." In the 9th line of the 10th page strike out the words "date of such bond or bonds" and insert the words "day of sale." In the 2d line of the 12th page, after the word "one" insert the words "and