

was withheld from gentlemen of the description with the petitioner, which to your committee appears to have been hard and oppressive to that class of valuable men; they therefore believing that the petitioner should be in some manner fully compensated for his acknowledged services, and holding the state of Maryland bound justly to remunerate those who had enlisted under her immediate banner, recommend the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the auditor-general ascertain the amount of five years full pay in favour of Samuel Y. Keene, as assistant regimental surgeon, during the late war, being equal to the commutation for half pay during life, granted by congress to the officers of the late American army, which sum, when so audited and ascertained by the said auditor, and certified by him, the treasurer of the western shore is hereby authorized and directed to pay to the said Samuel Y. Keene, or his order, out of any unappropriated money which may come in the treasury after the payment of the journal of accounts of the present session.

By order,

L. GASSAWAY, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, and the resolution therein contained rejected.

The clerk of the senate delivers the engrossed bills No. 25, 57 and 71, with the paper bills thereof; which engrossed bills were thus endorsed; "By the senate, December 31, 1801: Read and assented to.

"By order,

J. B. DUCKETT, clk."

The paper bills No. 25, 57 and 71, were sent to the senate by the clerk.

The following resolution being propounded to the house, was read.

RESOLVED, That the chancellor be and he is hereby authorized to inquire into all the circumstances attending a contract made by James Williams and Uriah Forrest with the state agent, for part of a tract of land called Beall's Level, and if the chancellor should be of opinion that the said Williams and Forrest are entitled to a return of any part of the consideration by them paid, that then and in that case the trustee of the state, and the treasurer of the western shore, be and they are hereby required to comply with such order and decree as the chancellor shall make thereon, and transfer and pay to said Williams and Forrest according to such order and decree.

ORDERED, That the same be referred to the next session of assembly.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill to continue the act of assembly therein mentioned, endorsed; "By the senate, December 31, 1801: Read the first and second time by a special order and will pass.

"By order,

J. B. DUCKETT, clk."

Ordered to be engrossed.

The resolution respecting the governor, endorsed; "By the senate, December 31, 1801: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

J. B. DUCKETT, clk.

"By the senate, December 31, 1801: Read the second time and assented to.

"By order,

J. B. DUCKETT, clk."

The resolution respecting the trustee, endorsed; "By the senate, December 31, 1801: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

"By order,

J. B. DUCKETT, clk.

"By the senate, December 31, 1801: Read the second time and assented to.

"By order,

J. B. DUCKETT, clk."

The resolution in favour of the examiner-general of the western shore, endorsed; "By the senate, December 31, 1801: Read the first and second time and assented to.

"By order,

J. B. DUCKETT, clk."

The bill for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors, and the following message:

BY THE SENATE, DECEMBER 31, 1801.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

WITH you, we regret the difference of opinion that has taken place between the two houses on the provisions that are necessary to be contained in an insolvent law.

The advanced state of the session prevents us from entering into a train of reasoning on the propriety of retaining those amendments proposed by us, and which, on reconsideration, we have not receded from. The second amendment proposed by us we have abandoned, the whole of the others, on the fullest and most mature consideration, we are of opinion should be retained. Although equally disposed with your house to relieve the distressed citizens of the state who are involved in difficulties from which they are unable to extricate themselves, we cannot, with other restrictions less than those proposed by us, consent to release them from those contracts that have been fairly entered into. The assent of the creditors only applies to the final release; without such consent the person of the debtor is effectually protected, and is freed from the control of the creditors.

It has been the complaint of the people of the state, that persons with too much ease have been released from their engagements; this has been the case even with those restrictions proposed by us.

It appeared most adviseable, by an almost unanimous vote of the senate, to continue this business under the control of the chancellor; the debtors have never complained, and as the assent of a large proportion of the creditors is deemed indispensable, they cannot with propriety complain.