

salutary for both master and apprentice, and hope on reconsideration of the bill, which is herewith returned, you will recede from your amendment.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time and agreed to.

Mr. Duvall, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Charles Steuart, of Anne-Arundel county, report, that they have taken the same into consideration.

They have received no testimony as to the point whether the sale made by Robert Smith to the petitioner, of a tract of land called Billingham, was bona fide made, or whether it was made to protect the property from confiscation. As the petitioner has stated in his petition that he has no indifferent testimony to prove this material fact, and as the subject has undergone a legal decision, the committee thought it needless to make further inquiry. It appears to the committee that the fact is capable of proof either at law or in equity, and further, that as the agent has sold the right of the state to a person who has complied with the terms of sale, it would be improper for the legislature to interfere.

All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with.

Mr. Oneale, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Ignatius Baggett, of Charles county, report, that they have had the same under their consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer thereof ought to be granted; they therefore beg leave to submit the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That no process or execution issue against Ignatius Baggett, of Charles county, on his bond to the state, until the fifteenth day of May next.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

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

Mr. Waggaman, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to authorise the register of the land-office to issue a patent to Salathiel Fitchett for lot number six in Nanticoke Manor; which was read the first and second time by especial order, and passed.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to prevent vexatious and unnecessary suits at law. ORDERED, That Mr. W. Thomas, Mr. Digges and Mr. Driver, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The report of the committee on expiring laws, was read the second time, and the second, fourth and fifth clauses therein contained concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That the committee appointed on expiring laws prepare and bring in the same.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

T H U R S D A Y, December 19, 1793.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Fitzhugh and Mr. J. Worthington. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. J. Wilmer is excused for absenting himself without leave.

Mr. Montgomery, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to alter the mode of collecting the county tax in Harford county; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The supplement to the act, entitled, An act to alter and amend the law in certain cases, and to repeal the ninth and tenth sections of the said act, was read the second time, and committed for amendment.

Mr. W. Thomas, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to prevent vexatious and unnecessary suits at law; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The bill to declare and explain the law in certain cases therein mentioned, was read the second time, and the question put, That the said bill be referred to the next session of assembly? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Goldsborough, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.

Messieurs	Kilgour,	Frazier,	Duvall,	Dennis,	Jamison,	Swearingen,
	Harwood,	Waggaman,	O'Bryon,	Houlton,	J. Bond,	Van Lear,
	Ridout,	Hollingsworth,	Barnes,	Purnell,	Prall,	Hughes,
	M'Pherfon,	Ward,	Seney,	Beatty,	Montgomery,	Johnson,
	Kerr,	T. Wootton,	Whittington,	Bayly,	M'Mechen,	Simkins.
	King,	Quynn,				32.

N E G A T I V E.

Messieurs	W. Thomas,	Hawkins,	Howard,	Gordon,	Sprigg,	Driver,
	Lloyd,	J. Thomas,	Cox,	R. Bond,	Jarrett,	Oneale,
	Tilghman,	Digges,	Goldsborough,	Ewing,	Douglass,	R. Wootton,
	Mackall,	Ridgely, of Wm.	Denwood,	Bowie,	Loockerman,	Tomlinson.
	Freeland,	T. Worthington,	Daffin,			27.

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

The following question being propounded to the house, viz. That the said bill be published for the consideration of the people? The previous question was called for and put, That the said question be now put? Resolved in the affirmative.