

PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE CONVENTIONS

OF THE
PROVINCE OF MARYLAND, — *Conventions*

HELD AT
THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS,

IN
1774, 1775, & 1776.

BALTIMORE:
JAMES LUCAS & E. K. DEAVEN.
ANNAPOLIS—JONAS GREEN.
.....
1836.

The convention took into their consideration a report from the said committee on the terms offered by Elisha Winters of Chester, town in Kent county, and came to the following resolutions thereon, to wit.

Resolved, That the sum of eight hundred and and fifty-five pounds common money be advanced to the said Elisha Winters out of the pulic treasury, he giving bond in double that sum, with sufficient security, conditioned for the delivery of 600 stand of muskets, three quarters of an inch in the bore and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in the barrel, to be well stocked with walnut, and well finished, with strong substantial double bridled locks, strong brass mounting, substantial steel bayonets and ramrods, and swivels for slings, agreeable to a sample this day produced to the convention, at the rate of four pounds five shillings common money for each musket so finished; the said muskets and accoutrements to be delivered to the order of the convention or the council of safety of this province for the time being, in the following proportions, to wit. Forty per month for the first three months from the date of the contract, and the residue in nine months thereafter, in proportions of not less than fifty per month; the said Elisha Winters to be furnished in due time, by order of the convention or council of safety for the time being, with barrels and bayonets, of the dimentions and quality as aforesaid, at the Head of Elk river in Cecil county, at the rate of twenty shillings common money each for the barrels, and eight shillings like money each for the bayonets. That a further sum of four hundred and twenty-seven pounds ten shillings like money be advanced him, upon the delivery of three hundred of the said muskets and accoutrements as aforesaid; and upon the delivery of the residue as aforesaid, that the further sum of four hundred and twenty-seven pounds ten shilling be paid him as the balance of the amount of the said six hundred muskets and accoutrements, at four pounds five shillings common money, deducting the cost of the barrels and bayonets as aforesaid.

On motion, *Resolved*, That all persons employed in the manufacturing or repairing of arms for the public, or in repairing arms for the use of the militia by order or appointment of any field officer of the militia, and all persons who are personally employed in erecting or working of powder mills, or in working in any public salt-petre or marine salt works, carried on for the use and on account of the public, shall, during the time they are actually so employed, within one year next following, be exempt from attending on musters.

Resolved, that no muskets or rifles, except by the owner thereof on his removal to reside out of this province, or any gun barrels,

gun locks, or bayonets, be carried out of this province, without the leave of the council of safety for the time being.

On reading a second time the petition of Charles Landsdale of Prince George's county, *Ordered*, That the same be referred to the committee appointed to examine the several claims on the treasury.

A memorial from Henry Ridgely of Elkridge, in Anne Arundel county; a memorial from Stephen Gartrill of said county; and a petition from Isaac M'Hard of the city of Annapolis; were severally read and ordered to lie on the table.

The committee for that purpose appointed, bring in and deliver to Mr. President, the following report to wit.

"The committee appointed to view and value the linen manufactured and sent to the council of safety by Edward Parker of Cecil county, do report, that seven pieces of linen delivered in to the commissary of stores, containing $281\frac{1}{2}$ yards, are of the value of three shillings and six-pence currency per yard, and that one peice containing 21 yards, is of the value of two shillings and three-pence currency per yard.

All which is submitted to the honourable convention.

"Signed per order of the committee,

N. HARWOOD, clk."

Which was read and agreed to.

Sundry remonstrances and petitions from the fifth and 20th battalions of militia in Queen Anne's county, were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The convention took into consideration the proceedings of the committee of observation for Calvert county, in the cause of James Weems, and it appearing that the facts stated in the said Weems' letter to the said committee, on the 26th day of February last, are true, *Resolved*, That the said James Weems was not guilty of a breach of the resolve of congress referred to in the proceedings of the said committee, and that the said committee erred in the determination by them made.

A petition from the officers and privates thereunto subscribed of a company of militia in Linganore, in the middle district of Frederick county, against their captain Basil Dorsey, was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The order of the day for taking into consideration the late intercepted letters to governor Eden, the proceedings of the continental congress, and of the council of safety of this province, thereupon, being read, *Ordered*, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.