

always considered himself ill-treated by the council, and had abused them for their conduct, and had remarked, that the council by their conduct would injure the republican cause, but that he never had used any threats, directly or indirectly, to intimidate the council, with a view to the election of delegates for the city; that he had never threatened to change his politics, or designed to influence the council to pay his account, by any declaration of that sort; and that in the height of the dispute relative to the account, he called on Mr. Boyle to solicit him to become a candidate for the assembly, to represent this city: That this deponent's meaning, in saying the conduct of the council in this instance would injure the republican cause, was, that it was calculated to do so, because it was unjust in its nature: That it is the opinion of this deponent the election of Mr. Boyle was secured long before the last order of the council to pay the account: That inferences might have been drawn, by young men of his acquaintance, from the manner in which he abused the council when they were mentioned in his presence; that he was not very violent in the election, but that he had never had any idea of changing his political sentiments for that reason: That the advance charges on the Baltimore prices for cabinet-work in Annapolis are generally from twenty to thirty per cent. That after Mr. Crook had valued the work, in conversation with the deponent, he (Crook,) appeared to be perfectly satisfied that the account was right, and then the deponent wrote to Baltimore for Mr. Camp, to come down to value the work also, in hopes that after that the dispute would end; and this deponent believes that Mr. Camp's letter to him of April 8th, 1808, was put into the possession of the council, or of Mr. Duvall, one of the council, soon after it was received.

(A true Copy. S. Lowdermilk, clk.)

(C.)

To John Hanson Thomas, Esquire, chairman of the committee who were appointed to inquire into the expenses incurred by the Executive in fitting up the house of delegates room with desks, &c. under a resolution of November session, 1806.

Annapolis, 22a December, 1808.

SIR,

IN obedience to the order of your committee, I shall hereunto subjoin answers, under oath, to the four interrogatories put to me.

To the first I reply, that to the best of my recollection, I never had any conversation with the Messrs. Tucks, or either of them, on the subject of their claim against the Executive, for fitting up the chamber of the house of delegates, until after I had understood that they had been fully paid—sometime after I had received such advice, Mr. Washington Tuck called on me, I think in the month of September last, to consult with me on a piece of private business; after it was discussed, I asked him if it was true that the claim of his brother and himself had been fully paid? He replied, that they had been paid the last cent of their claim. Mr. Tuck then stated, that a point of some consequence, had not, in the first instance, been taken into consideration, namely, that certain cabinet-makers in Baltimore had associated for the purpose of purchasing quantities of mahogany as they arrived; that they, of course, secured for themselves the prime of the wood, and disposed of the inferior to other cabinet-makers in Baltimore, or distant workmen, at such advanced prices as often left their own stock at less than nothing in point of cash.

To the second I reply, that I never had any conversation with any member of the executive on the subject of Messrs. Tucks claim, except with Mr. Duvall; that gentleman called on me sometime in the month of July, and informed me, that he intended to go to the city of Washington on the next day, with the view to obtain from the general government arms for the state of Maryland, in pursuance of the resolution of the last assembly. Mr. Duvall then stated, that there was a subject on which he wished I would act during his absence. I inquired what it was. Mr. D. supposed that I had heard of the difference which had happened between the council and Mr. Tuck, or the Messrs. Tucks; I replied, that I had heard of it, but had not informed myself of the particulars. Mr. D. then stated to me, from a memorandum in his hand, that the charge of Messrs. T. amounted to 3288 dollars; that the council, after various calculations, and after taking, (as I understood him,) all circumstances into consideration, had paid, or determined to pay, 2758 dollars, as a full compensation for the work done, and that they had determined not to pay the difference of 530 dollars. Mr. D. requested me to take a minute of these sums, which I did. Mr. D. then urged me to see the Messrs. T's. during his absence, and without mentioning his name to them, to endeavour to prevail on them to receive 2758 dollars as full satisfaction for their work. At this point of our conversation, I asked Mr. D. if it was true, that Mr. T. or the Messrs. T's. had proved their account at the request of the council? He replied, that such proof had been required and complied with. On a moment's reflection, I informed Mr. D. that under my then impressions, I could not interfere in the case. He requested me to reconsider, and gratify his wish, if possible, adding, that this subject might make some noise at the next session of assembly. I did not interfere.

To the third I reply, that in my second answer I have stated, that I had no conversation with any other member of the council but Mr. Duvall; I have given the entire substance of such conversation, to which it appears to me necessary only to add, that I have had no information whatever respecting the reasons which induced the council to abandon the ground which I understood they had taken in July last.

To the fourth I reply, that I have no further information to give on the subject.

With great respect, I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obdt. servt.

JOHN MUIR.