

And whereas, Countless millions of the property in this State, held by corporations and by other Acts of the General Assembly, have been and are now exempt from taxation as before intimated in direct violation of the spirit as well as the letter of the Constitution, amounting in the aggregate, doubtless to one half of the taxable property in Maryland.

And whereas, All these exemptions of property from taxation is directly devolving the whole expense of the Government upon the real property of the State, thereby prostrating the whole agricultural community, for the sole benefit of others, and in some localities rendering the land of the State almost entirely worthless.

Therefore ordered, That the Committee on Finance to be hereafter appointed, be and they are hereby, requested diligently to inquire what amount of property of all and every description both personal and real, is now exempt in this State from taxation, and whether such exemption is by law, or by acts of incorporation.

And be it further ordered, That the said Committee on Finance be requested to report to this Body at their earliest convenience such bill as will, as far as possible, relieve every species of property now exempt from taxation, from such exemption, and that the said committee report bills to impose equal taxation on all the property of this State, personal and real, without any distinction whatever, unless barr'd by Acts of Incorporation or other contracts entered into by the State, and that the said Committee on Finance have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Which was ordered to be entered upon the Journal, and lie over.

On motion by Mr. Stevens, it was,

Ordered, That a committee of three be appointed by the President to confer and report upon the names of Ministers of the Gospel, suitable to officiate as Chaplains in the Senate during its session.

The President appointed as said committee, Messrs. Stevens, Gorman and Hepbron.

Mr. Gorman presented the memorial of Thomas A. Lynch, contesting the election of Asa A. Lawrence, Senator returned for St. Mary's county.

Which was read and referred to the Committee on Elections, (hereafter to be appointed.)