

and Washington, passed at December session, 1818, chapter 45, so far as relates to Dorchester county; the bill for the relief of Elizabeth Winters, of Frederick county; the resolution in favour of James M'Cracken, and the bill authorising the recording of the deed therein mentioned, were sent to the senate.

Mr. Stevens presents petitions from John Jones, and Margaret Duhamel, and Mr. Wickes presents a petition from Samuel Benton, severally praying for support; referred to the committee on similar petitions.

Mr. Tyson presents a petition from Mary Roberts, and a petition from Susannah M'Cubbin; and Mr. Turner presents a petition from William Merryman; referred to the committee on divorces.

On motion by Mr. Tyson the bill to incorporate the Odd Fellows' Society was recommitted.

Mr. Cockey obtained leave to bring in a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act to incorporate Emmittsburgh, in Frederick county. Ordered, That Messrs. Cockey, Farquhar and Sappington, report the same.

On motion by Mr. Teackle, the following orders were read:

1. Ordered, That the committee on the penitentiary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the trade in materials, and traffic in the labour of criminals for the public account, and of vending the entire stock of such materials and fabricated articles on hand, and of vesting the avails in some secure and productive capital, to reimburse the state's expenditures hitherto disbursed in the erection and support of that institution.

2. Ordered, That the said committee be further instructed to inquire into the expediency of disposing, by contract, to the best bidder, of the labour of the several branches of mechanic art employed therein—the several contractors to provide materials and receive the work through the keeper; and all the profits, so far as they shall exceed the expenses of the establishment, to aid the fund to be provided for the reimbursement of the public charges hitherto incurred on that account.

3. Ordered, That for the purpose of ocular view and investigation of the condition and operations of the penitentiary, and that satisfactory information may be obtained, the said committee are directed to visit the offices and various departments of that establishment, and report thereon to this house.

4. Ordered, That the directors of the penitentiary be required to report, for the information of the committee on that subject, the present state of the institution; giving in detail the amount and description of the stock on hand, as well of materials as of fabrics completed, or in different stages of preparation, and of the debts due to and from; of the mode of vending their merchandize, and of the losses from such vending, if any losses have occurred; of the number of convicts, and a specification of the number in each of the several branches employed therein; also the cost of cloathing and subsistence *per capita*, and an estimate of the average value, *per diem*, of the labour of the said mechanics in each of their respective branches, and such other information as may be deemed conducive to the public interest.

5. Ordered, That the executive be requested to lay before this general assembly a statement of the expenses, profits, losses, progress and concerns of the penitentiary for the last year, if within the information of that department.

On motion by Mr. Teackle, Ordered, That the bill to confirm an act