

Ordered, that the committee on grievances and courts of justice, enquire into the expediency of passing a law requiring conveyance bonds to be recorded, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Buchanan submitted the following preamble and resolution,

Whereas, it has been made apparent to this house, from a careful investigation of the subject, made by a select committee appointed for that purpose, that the State of Maryland has been paying *extravagantly high* prices for her public printing—much higher than a due regard to economy and the interests of the State would justify—and whereas, on examination, it has been ascertained that the prices paid for the public printing in the States of Pennsylvania and New York, are much less than those paid by this State,—and whereas, we can see no reason why we should pay a higher price for our public printing than is paid in other States,—and whereas, it is believed, by this house, that a considerable sum may be saved to this State by inviting proposals for the public printing, hereafter to be contracted for; therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, that the committee appointed to contract for the public printing, be instructed to cause to be published in at least four newspapers of this State, two of which shall be in the city of Baltimore, a notice inviting proposals for the public printing of the next Legislature of this State, and that the said committee be further instructed to give the contract for the said public printing to such person or persons, as shall propose to execute the same correctly and neatly, and upon the best terms to the State—that the said committee shall contract with no person who will not agree to print the Journal and Laws on a long primer type, and put upon each page at least sixteen hundred m's; and the bills shall contain at least 30 lines, and be printed in pica type; and that no additional compensation shall be allowed for rule and figure work, and for broad sides there shall not be allowed more than twice the amount that is allowed per page for printing ordinary matter.

Which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Ballard, from the committee on colored population, made an unfavorable report upon the petition of Rachel M. Gaither, praying the passage of an act authorising her to manumit and set free a certain negro therein mentioned,