

ington, esquires ; for Allegany county, James D. Cresap, William Ridgely, James Prather, junior, and Joseph Tomlinson, esquires.

All which is submitted.

By order,

R. PINDELL, Clk.

Which was read the first and second time by special order and concurred with.

Mr. Driver delivers a bill, entitled, An act to change and alter the name of Dion Cotner, of Caroline county, to Dion Downes ; which was read the first and second time by special order, and passed.

Mr. Bradford delivers a petition from Edward K. Talley, a free man of colour of Harford county, praying that his title to certain property acquired by him may be confirmed ; which was read and referred to Messrs. Bradford, H. Hall and Sewell.

On motion by Mr. Hambleton, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to alter the time of holding the court of appeals for the eastern shore, and for other purposes. Ordered, That Messrs. Hambleton, Lecompte and Hands, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On motion by Mr. Hands, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act authorising the levy court of Talbot county to appoint a suitable person to take care of the court-house in said county. Ordered, That Messrs. Hands, Hambleton and Driver, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. R. K. Watts delivers a petition from the heirs of Martin Fisher, of Montgomery county, praying that a law may pass releasing the right of the state to certain lands purchased by said Fisher of mulatto Joseph ; which was read and referred to Messrs. R. K. Watts, Lanham and Watkins.

Mr. Potts delivers a petition from sundry inhabitants of Frederick-Town, in Frederick county, praying for a lottery to raise a sum of money for the purpose of paving Market-street in said town from Third-street to the north end of the town ; which was read and referred to Messrs. Potts, Taney and Howard.

The speaker laid before the house the following letter from Robert G. Harper, Esquire, resigning his seat in the senate of the United States.

*Baltimore, December 1st, 1816.*

SIR—When the legislature of Maryland conferred on me the honour of a seat in the senate of the United States, of which I shall ever retain the most grateful remembrance, I indulged the hope that I might be able to reconcile the duties of that situation with the necessary attention to my professional business. But the experience of one session has convinced me of my mistake ; and as my profession is indispensable to me, I find it necessary to avail myself of the opportunity which the present situation of the state affords, and withdraw from the senate.

In quitting so honourable a station, conferred on me in a manner so gratifying, I have to regret that my necessary avocations in another place prevented me from giving my whole mind and time to its duties. This omission, when the circumstances of the case are considered, will I hope be thought excusable.

Be pleased, Sir, to communicate my resignation to the house over which you preside, and to convey to them at the same time the expression of my gratitude, respect and good wishes.

With sentiments of the highest consideration, I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient very humble servant,

ROB. G. HARPER.

To the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Delegates of Maryland.

Which was read.

The house adjourns until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

### FRIDAY, December 6, 1816.

The house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. James Roberts, Esquire, a delegate from Queen-Anne's county, Thomas K. Carroll and Henry K. Long, Esquires, delegates from Somerset county, appeared, qualified, and took their seats.

On motion by Mr. Lecompte, the question was put, That the proceedings of yesterday be amended by inserting the letter of Robert G. Harper, Esquire, resigning his seat in the senate of the United States? Resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Warner delivers a petition from Benjamin Young, of Baltimore county, a soldier of the revolution, praying relief ; which was read and referred to Messrs. Warner, Price and Harryman.

Mr. Prather from the committee delivers the following report :

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Jacob Clark, of Allegany county, beg leave to report, that they have had the same under their consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioner is unreasonable and ought not to be granted ; they therefore report that the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

By order,

R. PINDELL, Clk.

Which was read the first and second time by special order and concurred with.

Mr. Stoddert delivers a bill, entitled, An act for appointing a Printer to the State ; which was read.

Mr. Taney delivers a petition from the president, managers and company, of the Hager's-Town turnpike road company, praying certain alterations in the original law relative to the day of election for president, managers and treasurer, of said company, and for other purposes ; which was read and referred to Messrs. Taney, Bowles and Potts.

Mr. Dennis delivers a bill, entitled, An act to make public and extend a road in Somerset county : which was read.

Mr. Driver delivers a petition from William Hughlett, of Caroline county, praying to be reimbursed for certain sums of money paid into the eastern shore treasury relative to escheat lands ; which was read and referred to Messrs. Driver, McDonald and Culbreth.

The house proceeded to the second reading of the report of the committee appointed to report the rules proper to be observed during the session. On motion by Mr. Lecompte, the question was put, That the word "uncovered" in the second rule be stricken out? Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion by Mr. Bowles, the question was put, That the word "uncovered" be inserted after the word "rise" in the third rule? Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion by Mr. Lecompte, the question was put, That the words "for indisposition or necessary attendance on the public business" be stricken out of the 18th rule? Resolved in the affirmative.