

medium of prejudice but "by the calm lights of mild philosophy," as we feel a correspondent zeal with your honorable body for internal improvement in our state, and as we are impressed with the vastness, the variety, the justness and propriety of the views contained in your message we give it our most cordial concurrence—We have named Messrs. _____ to join the gentlemen named by your message to devise means to accomplish the objects therein mentioned, provided a report can be made in the course of the ensuing week.

Mr. Purnell offered the following as a substitute for Mr. Pitt's message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, Feb. 12, 1823.

Gentlemen of the Senate—We have to acknowledge the receipt of a message from your honorable body, proposing a committee of conference that we may give some more substantial proof of the deep interest which we feel in the subject of internal improvement, and to martial the resources of our state, in such manner as to give the most efficient support to the different canal projects which have been submitted to this legislature at the present session. The house of delegates view with deep interest and concern the subject of internal improvement, and they must decline any committee of conference on the subject at this late period, of this already protracted session.

Mr. Pitt moved to withdraw his substitute. Resolved in the affirmative. The question was then put on Mr. Purnell's substitute. Determined in the negative. The question was then put, that the house assent to the message proposed by Mr. Merrick. The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

AFFIRMATIVE—Messrs Leigh, Gough, Millard, Dorsey, C. R. Stewart, Iglehart, Chesley, Dalrymple, Weems, Millar, Rogerson, Edelen, Garner, J. T. H. Worthington, Johnson, Loockerman, Martin, Spencer, Dashiell, Pitt, Henderson, Gerry, Bryan, Semmes, E. B. Duvall, Wootton, Clarke, Hughes, Carroll, Hopper, Moffett, Fisher, Cromwell, Whiteford, Sewell, Norris, Steel, W. Stewart, W. G. D. Worthington, Gabby, Bowles, Merrick, Peter, Kilgour, Williams, W. Duvall, Bruce, Sprigg, M'Mahon, M'Henry—50.

NEGATIVE—Messrs Ireland, Gale, Hodges, Lloyd, Jones, Dennis, Brattan, Meconiken, Nicholson, Slemaker, Purnell, Riley, Turbutt, Kemp, Douglass, Boon, Ed. Barwick—17. Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion by Mr. Meconiken, he was excused from the committee mentioned in the message, and Mr. Loockerman appointed in his place. The message was then sent to the senate.

On motion by Mr. Semmes, the following message was read, assented to, and sent to the senate, with the bill therein mentioned

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, February 12, 1824.

Gentlemen of the Senate—Agreeably to your request, we return you the bill to alter the mode of disbursing public money.

BY order,

J. BREWER, Clk.

Mr. W. G. Worthington presents a petition from sundry inhabitants of the city of Baltimore, praying the mayor and city council may levy a tax on the citizens without the limits of direct taxation; referred to Messrs W. G. D. Worthington, Stewart and Johnson:

Mr. Johnson delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Richard G. Belt, former clerk to the Lottery Commissioners, have given the same their mature deliberation, and believing the claim set forth by the petitioner to be just and true, they therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the treasurer of the western shore pay to Richard G. Belt, the sum of two hundred and twenty dollars, a balance due him as clerk to the Lottery Commissioners in the year eighteen hundred and twenty. By order,

TRUEMAN CROSS, Clerk.

Mr. Millard delivers the following report:

The joint committee of the senate and house of delegates appointed to examine the condition of the records of the Land Office for the Western Shore, report that in the performance of that duty they visited the office and found two large record books entirely destroyed and several others seriously damaged by the attacks of a small worm generated by the dampness of the lower cases in the office, and they further report, that there is not space in the room now occupied by the Register for the safe keeping of the records belonging to said office. They conceive that the interest of the land holders in this state, and the secure tenure of landed property in it require that the two volumes above alluded to should be transcribed, and that the appropriation of an additional room is absolutely necessary for the future preservation of the valuable records of said office, and as the fire proof room lately occupied by the register of wills for Anne Arundel county, was by a resolution of last session appropriated to the use of the clerk of the court of appeals for the reception of his records, as is believed with a view to give to the register of the land office, who had represented to the legislature, the insecure state of his records, the room adjoining the one now occupied by him for the reception of the books which were subject to injury in the office he now occupies, the committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions.

Resolved, That the clerk of the court of appeals be and he is hereby directed to remove the records belonging to his office now deposited in the room adjacent to the land office, to the room lately occupied by the register of wills for Anne Arundel county, and that the room so directed to be vacated by him be appropriated to the register of the land office, for the safe keeping of such records of his office as are now liable to injury from their situation in said office.

Resolved, That the executive be, and they hereby are authorised to direct the register of the land office, to cause liber J. B. No. B. and liber J. B. No. A. to be transcribed, and certain