

appointed by the court to examine him having in due form reported, that they had proceeded to examine said Roberts, and found him totally ignorant of the principles of law, and that he was otherwise of such exceptionable character as ought never to be admitted to practise as an attorney in a court of justice. Your committee further report, that upon a second application by the said petitioner to the said justices at August term last, the said court pronounced that it was the unanimous opinion of the court that he ought not to be admitted to practise in a court of justice. Your committee further are of opinion, that the judges of the general court are not obliged to grant the state of Maryland's writ of mandamus upon every trivial application, or to grant it otherwise than in cases where injustice is made appear to exist, and that as the judges considered that no injustice was done to said Roberts by the court below in rejecting him for his disqualifications, your committee are of opinion that the judges of the general court rightly rejected his application for a writ of mandamus. Your committee therefore approve of the conduct of the courts of justice, and are of opinion that there is no grievance or injustice existing in the case of the petitioner, and that there has been no denial of justice to him, and that the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

By order,

L. GASSAWAY,

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Frederick county, praying a remission of fines imposed under the supplement to the militia law, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Shriver, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Ridgely, Mr. Scott and Mr. Chapman, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Montgomery, from the committee, delivers to the speaker the following resolutions, as amended, viz.

Whereas by the constitution of this state it is declared, that the treasurers, (one for the western and another for the eastern shore,) may be appointed by the house of delegates during their pleasure; and it appearing that William Richardson, junior, Esquire, was heretofore, when he resided on the eastern shore, appointed treasurer thereof, and hath, since his appointment, removed to the city of Baltimore, and resided there for several years past: And whereas in the opinion of this house the duties to be performed by the said treasurer required his residence on the eastern shore; therefore, RESOLVED, That the said William Richardson, junior, Esquire, be and he is hereby discontinued as treasurer for the eastern shore of this state.

RESOLVED, That this house will, on the — day of — instant, appoint a treasurer for the eastern shore, to hold the said office agreeably to the constitution and form of government.

Which were read.

ORDERED, That the said resolutions have a second reading on Wednesday the second of December next.

Mr. B. Tomlinson, from the committee, delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Nathan Robinett and Moses Robinett, of Allegany county, report, that they have had the same under consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer thereof is unreasonable, and ought not to be granted.

By order,

Z. DUVALL, clk.

Which was read.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to reform the penal laws of this state, and to abolish the punishment of death in certain cases. ORDERED, That Mr. Steele, Mr. Ridgely, Mr. Scott, Mr. Dorsey, Mr. Goldborough, Mr. Chapman and Mr. Carcaud, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Washington county, praying an act may pass for laying out an additional election district in said county, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Ott, Mr. Tilghman and Mr. Montgomery, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Thomas Lyles and William Wells, inspectors of tobacco at the warehouse in Queen-Anne, Prince-George's county, praying an increase of salary, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill for the inspection of tobacco.

A petition from John Read Magruder, clerk of Prince-George's county, praying an increase of fees, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill to regulate the fees to county clerks.

A petition from Henry Costin, late sheriff of Queen-Anne's county, praying to be released from the payment of nine per cent. interest due from him to the state, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Lowrey, Mr. Burgess and Mr. Lowes, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Simkins, from the committee, delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to incorporate a company to open a turnpike road from Fort Cumberland to the western side of the Laurel hill, at or near Union-town; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Shriver, from the committee, delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of Frederick county, relative to fines imposed upon them under the militia laws of this state, report, that they have taken the said petition, and the facts therein stated, under their consideration, and they find that certain inhabitants of Frederick county were duly enrolled in the twenty-ninth regiment of militia, commanded by lieutenant-colonel Robert Cumming, and that they have always performed the duties required of them by the said laws and the officers of the said regiment. They further state to this house, that after the said petitioners had been enrolled in the said twenty-ninth