

Mr. Archer delivers a petition from Jason Moore, of Harford county, praying he may be authorised to sell the real property of Sophia Moore, and others; which was read and referred to Mr. Archer, Mr. Davis and Mr. Sireett, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Ireland delivers a petition from William Dixon, a revolutionary soldier; which was read and referred to the committee appointed on petitions of a similar nature.

And a petition from William R. Sewell, of Calvert county, praying a special act of insolvency; which was read and referred to Mr. Ireland, Mr. Grahame and Mr. Wilkinson, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Frazier delivers a petition from Mary Anne Hillman, of Dorchester county, praying a divorce; which was read and referred to Mr. Frazier, Mr. Tabbs and Mr. Bayly, to consider and report thereon.

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

## T H U R S D A Y, December 21, 1809.

**T**HE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The bill to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from the town of Westminster, in Frederick county, through Harman's Gap, to Hagar's-town, in Washington county, was sent to the senate.

On motion by Mr. Brent, the following message was read.

*Gentlemen of the Senate,*

THE members of this house feeling anxious to close the present session of this legislature, and well aware of the heavy expenses of the state attendant upon a protracted session, and fully convinced that the alarming situation of our national affairs demands a careful economy of the public finances, propose, with the concurrence of your house, to meet at 5 o'clock this evening for the purpose of signing and sealing the bills already engrossed, and do appoint \_\_\_\_\_ to join such gentlemen as may be fixed upon by your body, to wait upon the governor and to request his attendance in the senate chamber at the above hour for this purpose.

The bill authorising Joseph McCency, late sheriff of Anne Arundel county, to complete his collection, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Bowles, from the committee of grievances and courts of justice, delivers a bill, entitled, An act relative to the judges of the court of appeals and of the county courts; which was read.

The report on the petition of John Smith Brookes, was read the second time, the resolution therein contained assented to, and sent to the senate.

The bill to make valid a deed from William D. Glover, of Dorchester county, to Henrietta Glover, now Henrietta Rich, of Caroline county, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill respecting the land records of Saint Mary's county, the supplement to an act, entitled, An act to lay out a certain road in Baltimore county, the bill to authorise and empower the court of appeals for the western shore to hear and determine the matter of the decree of the late court of appeals of June term, eighteen hundred, between Benedict Edward Hall, executor of Amos Garratt, deceased, and administrator de bonis non with the will annexed of Peter Dicks, deceased, and the representatives of Jacob Giles, deceased, and the bill to authorise a lottery in Frederick-town for the purpose of paving Market-street in said town, severally endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed. The bill to fix and establish Argyle-alley in the city of Baltimore, endorsed "will pass with the proposed amendment;" which amendment was read, agreed to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed. And the resolution relative to repairing and furnishing the government-house, endorsed, "assented to."

The amendments to the supplement to an act, entitled, An act to enlarge the powers of the trustees of the poor in the several counties therein designated, were read, agreed to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

The bill annulling the marriage of Peregrine Emory, and Kitty E. Emory his wife, was read the second time, and, on motion by Mr. Seth, the question was put, That the words "from the bond of matrimony" be stricken out? Determined in the negative.

The question was then put, Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative, and sent to the senate.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill concerning crimes and punishments, and, on motion by Mr. C. Dorsey, the question was put, That the following clause be stricken out? to wit: "And be it enacted, That all male criminals who before the commencement of this act shall have been condemned to serve and labour on the public roads of Baltimore county, or in making, repairing or cleaning, the streets or basin of Baltimore-town, and whose time of service and labour is unexpired, shall immediately after the commencement of this act be conveyed to the said penitentiary, there to be confined, according to the directions herein contained, during the residue of the time for which such convict shall have been condemned to serve and labour." Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion by Mr. C. Dorsey, the question was put, That the following be inserted in lieu of the clause stricken out? "And be it enacted, That all male criminals who before the commencement of this act shall have been condemned to serve and labour on the public roads of Baltimore county, or in making, repairing or cleaning, the streets or basin of Baltimore-town, and whose time of service and labour is unexpired, shall, at the court of oyer and terminer and gaol delivery for Baltimore county next immediately after issuing the said proclamation, be brought unto the said court by the superintendent of the criminals, and may openly pray the court to commute the judgment severally pronounced against them, to a confinement in the said penitentiary, accord-