

Mr. Beall, submitted the following order for consideration:

Ordered, That the committee of claims place on the journal of accounts, the amount of postage on all communications of a public nature received by members of the legislature during the present session.

Which being twice read, and the question thereon put, "Will the house adopt the said order?" It was determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Ely, it was

Ordered, That a bill, entitled, An act to incorporate the Franklin Turnpike Company, in Baltimore county, be made a part of the business of this evening, the same being wholly of a local character.

Mr. Gantt, having asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill, to be entitled, An act to make valid a certain deed therein mentioned, and for other purposes, it was, on his motion, Ordered, That a select committee, consisting of three members, be appointed to prepare and report the same. Whereupon Messrs. Gantt, Beall and Semmes, were appointed the said committee.

Mr. Steuart of Baltimore, chairman of the committee therein mentioned, delivered the following report; which was read, and laid on the table, viz.

The committee on crimes and punishments, to whom was referred the petition of sundry citizens of Prince-George's county, praying the selling of spirituous liquors without license, be made a penitentiary offence, beg leave to report— That the grievance complained of does, in the opinion of the committee, exist, and ought to be remedied. The committee however, are of opinion that the making the offence of selling liquor without license punishable by confinement in the penitentiary, would be impolitic, as there would probably be more frequent and successful applications for remission of the punishment if increased, than as it stands now, it being admitted that the fine, light as it now is, is seldom enforced. The committee would also remark, that a bill passed by this house at the present session, entitled, An act to regulate the issuing of licenses to traders, keepers of ordinaries and others, which bill has passed the senate with some amendments, not likely to defeat the passage of this law, contains provisions well adapted to prevent the selling of liquor without licence, and to detect and punish that offence, and that it will be well to make a fair experiment of this new law, before recourse is had to any more severe system.

Geo. H. Steuart, Chairman.

By order,

J. S. Smith, Clk.