

impeded, or said railroad shall be constructed beneath the bed of said turnpike roads, for the same object and purpose, leaving thereby the beds of said turnpike roads unobstructed; done so as to avoid the destruction of life and property within the State.

USURY LAWS.

Mr. Ritchie, from the committee on the rate of interest and the usury laws of the State, made a report recommending that the following section be added to the article on the legislative department:

“In the absence of contract the rate of interest shall be six per cent per annum, but it shall be lawful to contract for the payment of any rate of interest provided that no greater rate than six per cent. shall be allowed or recognized unless the contract wherein the same is agreed upon be in writing.”

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

The unfinished business, being the consideration of the article relative to the executive department, was then taken up, the pending question being on the motion of Mr. Stoddert to reconsider the vote adopting the fifth section as amended, as follows:

“A person to be eligible to the office of Governor must have attained the age of thirty years, and must have been for ten years a citizen of the State of Maryland, and for five years next preceding his election a resident of the State, and at the time of his election a qualified voter therein.”

The motion to reconsider, after some discussion, was lost, and the article ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

EDUCATION.

The report of the committee on education was then taken up.

Section 1 was read and passed over without amendment. It is as follows:

“Section 1. The General Assembly, at its first session after the adoption of this constitution, shall, by law, es-