

erence from the committee on the militia to the committee on the legislative department, the order was adopted.

The reports of the committee upon the legislative department and of the committee upon a proper basis of representation in the two houses of the General Assembly, and a proper apportionment of representatives in the same, were taken up on their third reading, and certain verbal amendment reported by the committee on revision and compilation were agreed to.

The committee also reported in favor of the transposition of certain sections, consolidating the two articles, which were agreed to.

Mr. Barnes asked to open the legislative article to an amendment providing that the Legislature shall provide by law for State and municipal taxation upon the revenue accruing in the State of Maryland from business done by foreign corporations.

Mr. Barnes said every citizen of the State was taxed largely, and yet there were immense foreign corporations doing business in the State, some of them not even paying a license. The business of the Adams Express Company in Maryland was said to amount to millions, the Western Union Telegraph also did a large business, as also many foreign insurance companies, and it was but sheer justice that these corporations which were deriving such handsome revenues from the people of the State should contribute towards the support of the government.

The committee on revision and compilation recommended to strike the following section from the report, on the ground that it would be useless surplusage:

“The legal rate of interest shall be six per cent. per annum, unless otherwise provided by the General Assembly.”

After considerable debate the motion to strike out was disagreed to.

Mr. Marbury asked to strike out the 37th section, providing that the General Assembly shall pass no law making compensation for emancipated slaves, &c. Mr. Marbury said the retention of this section would very much embarrass the friends of the constitution, who would re-