

to which he is fairly entitled. No honest man would refuse to pay what he knew was the fair cost of a building, simply because the architect had ignorantly estimated the probable expense, before its commencement, at a lower sum than its actual cost. Such a man would be availing himself of a technicality to keep back the fair wages of his neighbor. Surely the State should be unwilling to adopt another rule of morality; and yet the case supposed, would be a far stronger one against the State than that under consideration, for Mr. Black never was called upon to enter into a contract to build the House; never was furnished with estimates of cost, and never, as he solemnly avers, supposed for a moment that the building could be erected for seven thousand dollars, when all who have examined the plans and specifications, declare that they call for an expenditure of nearly seven thousand dollars for materials alone.

Signed,

GEORGE WELLS, JR.

Which was read.

Also, reported a bill entitled an Act to appropriate a sum of money to pay William Black for the purchase of a lot and erection of a stable and carriage-house thereon for the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis.

Which was read a first time.

On motion of Mr. Wells,

The majority and minority reports of the Committee on Public Buildings, including the bills, were ordered to be printed.

The Secretary of the Senate delivered the following Joint Resolutions in relation to the alleged indebtedness of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company to the State of Maryland.

Which were read a first time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Merrick, (the rules being suspended,)

The House proceeded to the consideration of the bill entitled an Act for the support of Government for the year ending the first day of January, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

Said bill being upon a third reading,

The bill was then read a third time.

On motion of Mr. Merrick,

A call of the House was ordered.

Present at the call of the roll, the following members :