

Mr. Spates presented the petition of Maria Burton, asking a pension.

Which was read and referred to the Committee on Pensions.

Mr. Crawford presented the petition of Edward Burford, and other citizens of Wicomico county, praying the passage of a law, preventing non-residents of the State from catching fish in the waters of Nanticoke River.

Which was read and referred to Messrs. Crawford, Henry and Fields.

Mr. Blake presented the following Preamble and Resolutions:

To the Honorable, the General Assembly

Of the State of Maryland:

The following Preamble and Resolutions unanimously adopted by the Workingmen's Assembly of the State of Maryland, with the request that they be read before your Honorable Body:

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, The working classes have long been oppressed, and their rights ignored to a very great extent; and whereas, the same have the greater amount of the taxes or expenses of the State to bear, if not in a direct, at least in an indirect manner; and whereas, the laboring classes are greatly in the majority in the State, and as labor does, and must produce all capital, we think that it is but just and right that all laws pertaining to labor, that are detrimental to the interests of said classes should be repealed or amended, so as to afford all an opportunity of improving their condition; therefore,

Be it Resolved, That we, as workingmen, do ask of the members of the State Senate and House of Delegates, as our rights, that all laws in existence, that are in conflict with the interest of the working classes, be amended or repealed as the case may be, so as to give equal rights and privileges to all.

Resolved, That we consider the contract system, in the State Penitentiary very damaging to the interest of every honest citizens, and we believe will drive many honest mechanics from our city if continued, from the fact that honest men cannot live on the same amount of wages that is paid by contractors for convict labor.

Resolved, That this Preamble and Resolutions be presented to the Committee elected by the Workingmens' Assembly, with instructions to present the same to proper persons in the State Senate and House of Delegates of the State of Maryland, for the consideration of those Honorable Bodies.