

better protection of game in Montgomery county, and to amend and re-enact the same as amended.

Which was read a first time.

Mr. Johnson, Chairman of a Select Committee, reported favorably,

A bill entitled an Act authorizing the appointment of a Coroner for Dorchester county.

Which was read a first time.

Mr. Cooper, Chairman, on the part of the House, of a Joint Select Committee, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the Honorable,

The General Assembly of Maryland:

The undersigned Joint Committee appointed by your Honorable Body for the purpose of visiting and examining into the condition of the House of Refuge and the Maryland Penitentiary, would respectfully report, that in the discharge of their duty, they visited first the House of Refuge. The worthy Superintendent, Mr. W. B. Lincoln, together with a number of the Board of Managers, assisted your Committee in making a thorough and satisfactory examination of the Institution.

The buildings were found to be in good repair, and in a cleanly condition; the inmates had a cleanly appearance, both as regards their persons and their clothing; their general healthy appearance, ruddy cheeks, &c., gave evidence of their being well fed and otherwise properly cared for.

A number of the larger youths are employed by contractors, subject, however, to the strict discipline and rules governing the institution. It was surprising to see with what cheerfulness and zeal they applied themselves to their respective tasks; those not engaged on contract work are laboring in the various departments of the Institution—some at making shoes, some at tailoring, some at baking, and others at washing, cooking, &c., all being put at some trade or occupation which will learn them habits of industry and fit them for future usefulness. They are required to devote six hours to mechanical labor, and five hours to schooling, each day. They are instructed by competent teachers in all the branches necessary to give them a good common school education; nor are their spiritual training neglected—appropriate religious exercises being had every day.

At the date of our visit, the inmates numbered 298, and of this number there was but a single case in the hospital. The commodious accommodations, the well lighted and ven-