

On motion by Mr. Knight,

Leave was granted to Messrs. Knight, Longwell and Brewer to report a bill to add an additional Article to the Code of Public General Laws, to be entitled "Public Roads in Cecil county."

Mr. Knight, from the Committee on Militia, submitted the following :

JOINT RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the United States imposes on Congress the duty of providing for organizing and arming the militia of the several States, and Congress did in pursuance thereof, on the twenty-third day of April, one thousand eight hundred and eight, pass a law making a permanent annual appropriation of two hundred thousand dollars, to provide arms as aforesaid, to be apportioned among the several States, and

Whereas, By reason of the increase in the population from eight to upwards of forty millions, and the increase in the number of States from thirteen to thirty-seven, the present annual quota allotted to this State, of the aforesaid appropriation, is insufficient to arm the militia of the States, and an onerous charge is imposed upon the State Treasury to supply from time to time the deficiency, and

Whereas, The Governor of this State, has adverted in his message to the importance of arming the volunteer organizations with the improved breech loaders, and the said organization are now for the most part armed with inferior muzzle loading weapons, and

Whereas, A bill is now pending before Congress largely increasing the annual appropriation for the purpose of providing arms and ordnance stores for the whole body of the militia of the United States, and among other things, providing that all arms issued to the States and Territories shall be of the same patterns as are adopted for the United States Army, therefore

Be it Resolved, The House of Assembly, concurring that the Senators in Congress from this State, be instructed and the Representatives requested to urge and vote for the passage of the bill now before Congress entitled "a bill making provision for arming and equipping the whole body of the militia of the United States and for other purposes.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Tuck presented the petition of three hundred and two citizens of Annapolis, asking that barber's shops may be closed on Sunday.