

On motion of Mr. Carter,

The Committee then rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair,

Mr. Field, as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House, reported the said bill with the proposed amendments:

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED.

“Whereas, The sureties upon the first official bond of Stevenson Archer, late Treasurer of Maryland, have been held liable for misappropriations of the State’s funds and securities committed by him after his second election, when, in the language of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, they ‘had a just and reasonable expectation that their liability would not extend beyond the period of two years for which he was first elected, with the addition of the short time allowed by law for the qualification of his successor;’ and

“Whereas, The second official bond of said Archer has been declared void by the Court of Appeals aforesaid; and

“Whereas, The suit upon the third official bond of said Archer has not yet been tried; and

“Whereas, The said sureties have applied to the Governor to recommend to the General Assembly the passage of a law relieving them from all liability on said bonds, except for the misappropriations by said Stevenson Archer of the State’s funds and securities between the date of his first official bond, to wit: the 2d day of February, 1886, and the 13th day of February 1888, by which said last mentioned day he should have qualified under his second appointment of January 13th, 1888; and

“Whereas, The Governor has transmitted to this General Assembly the said application of said sureties, with a message declaring that the case of the sureties presents a strong equity, and recommending that the General Assembly shall take their case into consideration, and grant to them such equitable relief as in the judgment of the General Assembly shall be just and fair; with the additional recommendation that as a condition of such equitable relief, the sureties on the bonds of said Stevenson Archer shall also