WEDNESDAY, February 17th, 1904.

The House met at 12 m., and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Bell.

Present at the call of the roll the following members:

Messrs. Speaker, Wilkinson, Atkinson, Gibbs, Atwell, Downs, Duvall, Lowman, Bond, Simmons, Smoot, Walbach, Benson, Fitzsimmons, Green, Stevenson, Collins, Dodson, Jackson, Milbourne, Miles, Hopkins, Jones, Murphy, of Dorchester; Keys, Kirk, Fryer, Hill, Ray, Tighe, Wells, Walls, Butler, Wilson, Dennis, Kirbin. Crawford, Harrison, Harry, Hiteshew, Smith, Carroll, Hitchcock, McComas, Goslin, Willey, Becker, Bosse, Evans, Lipman, Norris, Reed, Murphy, of Baltimore city; Orem, Roth, Trager, Bouchet, Dawkins, Grant, Linthicum, Moore, Bald, Henkel, Lock, Miller, Pairo, Baker, Bingham, Charles, Mitchell, Tennant, Amiss, Johnston, Lansdale, Drumm, Feaga, Loar, Stump, Jenkins, Fuss, Haines, Kain, Oursler, Gill, Pearre, Bennett, Messick, Harvey, Howard—88.

The Journal of the 16th was read and approved.

ORDERS.

On motion of Mr. Grant, it was

Ordered, That Mr. Durham be excused from to-day's session on account of business.

On motion of Mr. Amiss, it was

Ordered, That Mr. Williams be excused on account of sickness.

On motion of Mr. Messick, it was

Ordered, That Messrs. Hearn and Carey be excused from to day's attendance on account of sickness in family.