

TUESDAY, February 1st, 1876.

The House met, and was opened with pray by the Rev. Mr. Steele.

Present at the call of the roll the following members :

Messrs. Smith, (Speaker,) Mattingly, Boyer, Usilton, Hodges, Robinson, Kullman, Turner, Bird, Lancaster, Hawkins, Hooper, Baldwin, Whitelock, Curtis, Smith, of Baltimore county, Given, Fitzjarrell, Lankford, Gunby, Ford, Waters, of Dorchester, Briscoe, Constable, Ward, Snowden, Hance, Gwynn, Cockey, Neal, Purnell, Riggs, Hinks, Naill, Linthicum, Rutledge, Boyle, Vandiver, Culbreth, Goldsborough, Rusk, Berkemeier, Lewis, McWilliams, Hoblitzell, McGlone, Coburn, Stewart, McAleese, Gill, Hart, Loane, Chaisty, Hess, Harig, Albaugh, Sanders, Fenton, Ranger, Jones, Canby, Griffith, Rawlings, Atkinson, Sprigg, Brooke, Brown, Rinehart, Lamotte, Waters, of Car'l., Donaldson, Dashiell, Gordy, Barnard, Browning—75.

Mr. Dashiell presented the petition of L. E. Barcloff, Geo. R. White, W. T. Killam, Leven A. Enslly, James Langrette, William T. Holland, James R. Milling, Charles Walker, Samuel Boachamp, Goodman Bramble, James Tadel, B. F. Leach, John W. Willing and 250 others, oystermen and citizens of Baltimore city, Somerset and Wicomico counties, asking for a revision of the Oyster Law of this State.

Which was read and referred to the Committee on the Chesapeake Bay and its Tributaries.

Mr. Stewart presented the petition J. M. Touchstone and 106 other citizens of Maryland, asking that the present law governing the employment of convicts in the penitentiary, so as to prevent contracts for their labor being made at a lower rate than the price of the same work outside of the institution.

Which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Hawkins presented the petition of Samuel Con, Geo. M. Lloyd and 46 other citizens of Charles county, for the protection of the English mocking bird.

Which was read and referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Hinks presented the petition of George W. Miller and 50 other citizens of Maryland and owners therein, praying