WEDNESDAY, February 16th, 1876.

The House met, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Amos.

Present at the call of the roll, the following members?

Messrs. Smith, (Speaker,) Dunbar, Mattingly, Boyer, Usilton, Hodges, Robinson, Rullman, Bird, Lancaster, Hawkins, Hooper, Baldwin, Whitelock, Curtis, Smith, of B. eo., Given, Fitzjarrell, Dodson, Lankford, Gunby, Ford, Lambdin, Smith of Dor., Waters, of Dor., Briscoe, Constable, Ward, Snowden, Hance, Gwynn, Cockey, Neal, Purnell, Onley, Riggs, Hinks, Naill, Koons, Rutledge, Boyle, Vandiver, Culbreth, Rusk, Berkemeier, Lewis, McWilliams, Hoblitzell, McGlone, Coburn, Stewart, McAleese, Gill, Hart, Loane, Chaisty, Hess, Harig, Albaugh, Sanders, Fenton, Scott, Farrow, Ranger, Jones, Canby, Griffith, Rawlings, Atkinson, Sprigg, Brooke, Brown, Rinehart, Lamotte, Waters, of Car'l, Donaldson, Dashiell, Gordy, Barnard, Browning—81.

The Speaker laid before the House the following communication from Hon. C. J. M. Gwynn, Attorney General of the State, in response to an order of the House.

BALTIMORE,
February 15, 1876.

To the Speaker of the House of Delegates:

SIR:—I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of the following preamble and order adopted by the House of Delegates on February 9th, 1876.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

"By virtue of Section 2, of Article 5, of the Constitution of the State, either branch of the General Assembly has authority to require the Attorney General to give his opinion in writing on any legal matter depending before them, and as this Body has before it the subject of the oppression of the people of Baltimore, by the unconscionable monopolies, the Gas Companies, therefore,

"*Ordered by the House of Delegates*, That the Attorney General be and he hereby is required to inform this House what legislation exists, if any, securing to the people of Baltimore the fair measuring of the gas supplied to them by the Gas Companies, and also what additional legislation is necessary or proper to attain this object."