

sioner, on the part of the State of Maryland, to communicate immediately with His Excellency, the Governor of Delaware, in regard to the arming of free negroes of Delaware along the Maryland line, and whether any arrangements can be made to allay the excitement of our people along the Maryland line.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Briscoe from the committee on the Judiciary, asked leave to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition of Alexander Knott; which was granted, and

On motion,

It was referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Warfield,

Leave was granted to introduce a bill to authorize the the committee on Claims to pay George W. Hooper for provisions furnished by order of Gov. Hicks, through Major Kenly, to the forces protecting the Pikesville Arsenal.

The following communication was received from the Executive by the hands of Grayson Eichelberger, Secretary of State:

STATE OF MARYLAND.
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Frederick City, May 3, 1861. }

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates :

In response to your order of this date, enquiring whether the steamer Pioneer was employed or authorized by my order to bring the Eastern Shore members to Baltimore, I have to say, that I understood the steamer was chartered by Coleman Yellott, Esq., for the purpose indicated, and that I approved thereof.

THOS. H. HICKS.

Which was read and referred to the Joint Special Committee on Claims and the committee on Mileage.

Also the following :

STATE OF MARYLAND,
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Frederick City, May 3, 1861. }

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates :

My letter to the Secretary of War, to which he responded under date of April 17, 1861, a copy of which response has