

The bill being read throughout, the question was put, Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative; which was sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. Mitchell, from the committee, delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to make the bridge built by Zenas Wells over Principio creek, in Cecil county, a toll-bridge; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill authorising Nathaniel Oldham, Absalom Oldham and James Cockran, to complete their collections, the bill annulling the marriage of Joseph Boyd, and Elizabeth his wife, the bill to lay out and make a public road from Thomas Richardson's mill, in Montgomery county, to intersect the main road leading to the town of Bladensburgh, in Prince-George's county, and the bill authorising Jasper E. Tilly, late sheriff of Anne-Arundel county, to complete his collection, severally endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed. The supplement to an act, entitled, An act authorising Joseph Green, late sheriff and collector of Charles county, to complete his collections, and for other purposes, endorsed, "will not pass." The bill for the relief of Nathaniel L. Chew, Peter Miles and Robert Nesbit, of Baltimore county, endorsed, "on reconsideration the 1st, 2d and 5th amendments receded from." Ordered to be engrossed. A bill, entitled, A further supplement to the act, entitled, An act to incorporate companies to make several turnpike roads through Baltimore county, and for other purposes, a bill, entitled, An act to incorporate a society to educate and maintain poor orphan and other destitute female children, by the name of The Orphaline Charity School, and to repeal the act of assembly therein mentioned, severally endorsed, "will pass;" which were read the first time and ordered to lie on the table. The resolution in favour of John Smith Brooks, endorsed, "assented to." And the following report, endorsed, "unanimously assented to."

TO THOMAS JEFFERSON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

WE, the representatives of the people of Maryland, highly appreciating the happiness and prosperity of the United States, would do injustice to our own feelings, and those of our constituents, did we not, at this eventful crisis, offer to you this our testimony of the wisdom and integrity of your administration, and our approbation of those measures which, under the guidance of Divine Providence, have secured to the American people the blessings of peace, whilst war and insatiate ambition have devastated the fairest portions of Europe. But when we indulge in mutual felicitations at the enjoyment of that tranquility, under the auspices of which our country hath grown rich and great, we have most sincerely to lament, that an honest endeavour to do equal justice to all nations, under a conscientious and dignified neutrality, hath not availed to exempt our happy shores from the sound of war. A national vessel, bound to a distant service, hath been wantonly and unprovokedly attacked by a British ship of war, in sight of our own coast, and almost within our own harbours—the blood of our brave seamen hath flown in this barbarian outrage, and their lives have fallen the victims of piratical domination—other American citizens, sailing under the protection of that flag, and in the service of their country, have been dragged from that protection and service, confined in a degrading captivity, and compelled, ignominiously, to fight in the war of nations with whom we were at peace, and in whose animosities the government of our country evince no participation. The citizens of Maryland, indignant at this flagrant and unprecedented outrage upon our national character, assembled in various districts of the state, and manifested their feelings in addressing the constituted authorities of their country in strong and energetic language, and we, the common organ of their will, would unfaithfully represent that people, did we fail to reiterate their high resentment and patriotic determination, to brave all the calamities of war rather than tamely submit to the tyranny and insolence of any nation.

Well aware that the peace of our country is menaced from various quarters, and that it is our duty to take a firm and decided stand against any nation that may demand concessions incompatible with our honour and independence, we avail ourselves of the moment, to declare our confidence in the firmness and energy of the present administrators of our government, and our disposition to sacrifice our lives and property in repelling the wanton aggressions or lawless claims of all nations. Although the blood of our countrymen hath been shed, and our citizens led into captivity, by the arm of a foreign power, and although domestic traitors have reared their hydra front, and endangered our peace and national happiness, still we indulge the pleasing reflection, that the government of our country have preserved a manly and dignified attitude, evincing to the world an unshaken determination to concede no point inconsistent with the honour of our country, and the safety of its citizens. But notwithstanding this well grounded confidence, we should do great violence to our own feelings, and those of the citizens of Maryland, did we fail to communicate our sentiments upon one point in dispute between this country and Great Britain, we mean the general right of our flag to protect all American seamen who sail under it. It is with the most poignant sensations we recognise the fact, that thousands of our native citizens are at this moment confined in ignominious bondage on board of British ships of war, exiled from their country, their families and friends, and compelled ingloriously to fight for the establishment of principles repugnant to natural justice and the usages of nations; and it is with strong emotions of contempt we hear this inestimable right treated as trivial and unimportant, and declarations made, that the United States ought not to hazard the horrors and calamities of war for the protection of her citizen seamen. Though we fervently deprecate the evils of war, and though we highly appreciate the value of peace, yet we sincerely hope, that the general protection of American citizens, sailing under our flag, will be made the *sine qua non* of our amity with every nation on earth.