

ple of the State since 1851, have made any contracts in pursuance of the directions contained in section 5, of article 7, of the constitution, or of the provisions of the act of 1852, chapter 113, and, if any, what contracts have been so made, and with whom, and upon what security, and at what periods they expired or expire, and what amount has been secured to the State thereby, and whether, under said contracts, the contractors have fully complied with the terms of these contracts.

We have appointed Messrs. Sothoron, Berry and Gaither on the part of the Senate, to join the gentlemen who may be appointed on the part of your honorable body.

By order, C. HARWOOD, Sec'y.

On motion of Mr. Merrick,

The rules were suspended to allow him to offer the following message:

*By the House of Delegates,*

February 18th, 1856,

*Gentlemen of the Senate,*

We have received your message, proposing the appointment of a joint committee to examine and report to the Legislature whether the Commissioners of Lotteries, elected by the people of the State since 1851, have made any contracts, in pursuance of the directions contained in section 5, of article 7, of the constitution, &c., &c., and concur therein.

We have appointed Messrs. Merrick, Valiant, Brengle, Goldsborough and Hall, on the part of this House, to join the gentlemen on the part of the Senate.

By Order,

THOMAS H. KENT, of Jos.

Chief Clerk.

Mr. Stack, from a select committee, reported a bill entitled, an act to change the name of a certain village in Caroline county, known by the name of "Snow Hill," to the name of "Preston."

Mr. Daniel, from a select committee, reported a bill entitled, an act to provide for the election of a Chaplain to the Maryland Penitentiary;

Also, a bill entitled, an act to provide for the erection of a new dormitory to the Maryland Penitentiary, and making suitable provisions for a chapel, and for insane persons confined in said Penitentiary.