

Also, presented a petition of 26 citizens of Kent county, asking that negro testimony may not be received against white persons;

Which was referred to the committee on Colored population.

Also, presented a memorial of sundry citizens of Kent county in relation to the weighing of wheat;

Which was referred to the committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Stewart presented a petition of sundry citizens of Howard county praying the Legislature not to repeal the law creating the office of State Agricultural Chemist;

Which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

Also, presented the petition of sundry citizens of Howard and Carroll counties praying the Legislature for an appropriation to aid them in establishing a classical school in Carroll county;

Which was referred to the Howard and Carroll delegations.

Mr. Carper presented a memorial of Valentine Birely and others, calling the attention of the Legislature to the necessity of legislation in reference to unequal taxation;

Which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means;

On motion of Mr. Hall,

The rules were suspended to allow the minority of the committee on Internal Improvements to make the following

REPORT.

The undersigned being a minority of the committee to whom was referred the bill from the Senate amendatory of an act, to incorporate the Metropolitan Rail Road Company, protest against the passage of said bill by the House of Delegates, for the following among other reasons.

1st. That the proposed amendment if adopted would be in direct violation of a contract made when the charter was granted, in this, when the charter was obtained, it was upon conditions and stipulations, clearly set forth and contained in that instrument and upon the faith of which the State agreed to part with a valuable franchise. The most important, if not the controlling consideration was that imposed upon and accepted by the company, *to construct a Rail Road from the District of Columbia through the most eligible and central portions of Montgomery county to Frederick city and from thence to Hagerstown.* Without this provision the charter would not have been granted. The amendment now under consideration proposes to invalidate this contract