

Also delivered the following bills;

A bill entitled, an act to incorporate a company under the name of the Hydrant Company, of Port Tobacco;

Was read the first time, and referred to the Committee on Corporations.

A bill entitled, an act to authorize the State Treasurer, upon the warrant of the Comptroller, to pay over to William F. Frick, and Charles Frick, Executors of the late Judge Wm. F. Frick, the salary of the said Judge, for the quarter ending the 1st day of October, 1855.

Was read the first time, and referred to the Committee on Claims.

And a bill entitled, an act to provide for the sale of the lands reserved for the use and occupation of the Choptank Indians, in Dorchester county;

Was read the first time and referred to Messrs. Dail, Frazier, and Thomas.

Mr. Fiery from the Special Committee to which were referred the petitions in relation to nunneries &c., made the following

REPORT.

The Select Committee to whom were referred the various petitions, asking further legislation for the protection of persons unlawfully confined in Convents and Nunneries, beg leave respectfully to report

That they have given the subject that calm and deliberate consideration which its importance demands, and while they have been led unanimously to the conclusions they present, they will not be able to do more than state those conclusions, without furnishing all the reasons in detail, which have induced their adoption.

The Constitution and Declaration of Rights of our State, guarantee to every individual the right to worship God in such manner as he may think most acceptable to Him; and they also declare that no person ought, by any law, to be molested in his person or estate on account of his religious persuasion or profession, or for his religious practice, unless under color of religion any man shall disturb the good order, peace or safety of the State.— And, however persons may differ as to the propriety or necessity of establishing Religious Houses, Monasteries or Convents, in which professors of religion may seclude themselves from the world, the right of any individual, under our laws, to enter such places, and there remain of their own free will, cannot admit of a doubt.