

The report of the President and Directors of the Maryland Penitentiary was referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

And the report of the committee on prison manufactures to the Directors of the Maryland Penitentiary, was referred to the committee on Manufactures.

STATE DEPARTMENT,

Annapolis, January 3, 1843.

To the Honorable

The General Assembly:

I herewith have the honor to submit a statement received from James W. McCulloh, Comptroller of the Treasury of the United States, showing the amount of the distributive share of the State of Maryland of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands; and also, letters received from the clerks of the commissioners of the several counties, respecting the income and ground rent tax laws.

FRANCIS THOMAS.

Which were read, and

Referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Buchanan then submitted the following order:

Ordered, That the Speaker appoint a committee of five members to contract for the printing of the House of Delegates, and that Messrs. William & George Johnston execute the printing of the same until such contract shall have been made; and that the said committee be required to report to this House by the 15th instant;

Which was read.

On motion of Mr. Tuck,

The following amendment was read and assented to:

“And that said committee shall make a contract upon the best terms, reference being had to economy and faithfulness in the execution of the work, and that such contract shall be subject to revision and rejection by this House.”

The question then recurred on the adoption of the order as amended;

And on being put, it was adopted.

Whereupon the Speaker appointed Messrs. Buchanan, Weber, Sherwood, Tuck and Causin, said committee.

On motion of Mr. Phelps,

Ordered, That the committee on Elections be instructed, and they hereby are directed, to ascertain and report to this House at their earliest convenience, the popular vote of the State, for and against the bill proposing an alteration of the Constitution of Maryland, so as to establish biennial sessions of the Legislature.

Mr. Nicols reported a bill entitled, an act to abolish the office of Armorer at the city of Annapolis, and to devolve the duties heretofore performed by that officer, upon the Adjutant General;

Read the first time and laid on the table.

Mr. Brown reported a bill entitled, an act for the relief of Thomas Barthelow and others;