

eral valuation and assessment of property in this State, and to provide a tax to pay the debts of the State;

Read the first time, and

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Graves presented the petition of Jabez M. Gill and others, praying for relief for labor in the erection of the Maryland Hospital;

Read and referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Richardson of Baltimore reported a bill entitled, an act supplemental to an act entitled, an act to incorporate the Chesapeake Bank, passed December session 1835, ch. 313;

Read the first and by special order the second time, passed and sent to the Senate.

The doorkeeper returned and reported that he had notified the absent members that their attendance was required in the House.

The question then recurred on the passage of the bill entitled, an act for the better security of negro slaves in this State, and for promoting industry and honesty amongst the free people of color;

On motion of Mr. Brent,

The following amendment was read:

Strike out all after the word "arrest" in the sixth line of the first section down to the word "and" in the seventeenth line of the same section and insert:

"Any such negro or mulatto, and have him or her placed in the jail of the county, city or district, as the case may be; and it shall be the duty of the sheriff to carry such negro or mulatto, within twenty days after such arrest and confinement, (or at the first meeting of the orphans court thereafter,) before the orphans court of the county or district where said arrest shall be made, and if the said negro or mulatto shall fail to offer the requisite proof that he or she has not come into this State contrary to the provisions of this act, the said orphans court shall direct him or her to be sold by the sheriff at public sale, to the highest bidder, whether a resident of this State or not, first giving fifteen days notice of such sale in some newspaper, and by advertisements set up in the most public places in the county, city or district, as the case may be, to serve in the character and capacity of a slave; and the said sheriff, after deducting prison charges and other necessary expenses to be allowed by the orphans court, shall pay over the nett proceeds of such sale to the informer or informers—provided, that the person so purchasing said negro or mulatto, shall give satisfactory bond to the sheriff for the removal of said negro or mulatto beyond the limits of the State."

Before the question was put on assenting to the said amendment;

On motion of Mr. Forwood,

The House adjourned until four o'clock, P. M.