

The House then took up 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;

The question being on the passage of the said bill,

On motion of Mr. Tuck,

The said bill was reconsidered for the purpose of additional amendment.

On motion of Mr. Grove,

The following amendment was read and rejected:

Insert after the word "whatever" in the 4th line of the 1st section of the bill in pamphlet form, the words "except those who may be employed as boat hands on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal."

On motion of Mr. Brent,

The following amendment was read.

Insert after the word "made" in the 13th line of the 1st section of said bill, the words "and if the person or persons arresting such negro or mulatto shall make affidavit that the said negro or mulatto was taken and arrested within the limits of the State."

On motion of Mr. Dashiell,

The following substitute for said amendment was read.

Insert after the word "made" in the 13th line of the 1st section of said bill, "and if the party arresting shall prove that said negro or mulatto was in the State at the time he was arrested."

On the question being put,

Will the House accept the said substitute?

Determined in the negative.

The question then recurred on assenting to the amendment proposed by Mr. Brent;

And on being put, it was assented to.

On motion of Mr. Schley,

The following amendment was read and assented to:

Add to the first section the following proviso:

"Provided, however, that the said court shall not proceed to order a sale under this act until reasonable time, not exceeding thirty days, shall be allowed said negro or mulatto to make his defence."

On motion of Mr. Nicols of Caroline,

The following amendment was read and rejected:

Add to the first section the following:

"And in every such case the said court shall assign counsel to said negro, who shall be paid by the person making the arrest."

On motion of Mr. Hollman,

The following amendment was read and assented to:

Insert after the first section the following:

"Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any free negro, mulatto or slave to be employed as captain or skipper on any canal boat running on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal; and it shall be the duty of all lock keepers, superintendants or