

Read the first and by special order the second time, and will pass.

On motion of Mr. Risteau,

The house took up for consideration the reports of the majority and minority of the select committee on printing, being the unfinished business of yesterday.

The question being on concurring in the report of the minority of said committee;

The Speaker said that before putting the question, he thought it due to himself, and to prevent the possibility of mistake hereafter, to state, that he did not consider that the law of parliament recognized the existence of a minority of a committee, so far as the proceedings of the house are concerned. It had been the usage however of the House of Delegates, as well as that of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, to allow minority reports to be made, and with a proper regard for the usage, he would put the question on the report of the minority of the committee; but if a question should at any time during the session be made, whether a minority had a right to make a report, he should decide that they had not.

On motion of Mr. Causin,

The house was called and the doorkeeper sent after the absent members.

On motion of Mr. Nichols of Dorchester,

The house proceeded with the ordinary business of the session in the absence of the doorkeeper.

On motion of Mr. Nichols of Dorchester,

The house took up for consideration the bill to make valid an indenture of apprenticeship of Samuel Sewell of Dorchester county;

Read the second time and will pass.

Mr. Brent, from the committee on Grievances and Courts of Justice, reported a bill entitled, an act to confirm and make valid a deed of conveyance from Joseph L. Smallwood to Mary Hargraves;

Read the first and by special order the second time, and will pass.

Mr. Buchanan, from the select committee on that subject, reported a bill entitled, an act to secure to mechanics and laborers in Allegany county, a lien upon all property upon which they make, erect houses, barns, mills and other tenements; also, upon all such houses, barns, mills and other tenements so erected;

Read the first and by special order the second time, and will pass.

Mr. Biser, from the select committee on that subject, reported a bill entitled, an act directing the levy court and trustees of the alms house of Frederick county to publish annually a full statement of their receipts and disbursements;

Read the first time.

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