

Mr. Yellott, chairman of same committee, to which was referred the bill from the Senate entitled, an act to authorise Philemon B. Hopper and Philemon B. Hopper, jr. to mortgage certain real estate therein mentioned, reported the same without amendment ;

Which was read the first, and by a special order the second time ;

On motion of Mr. Potter,

Said bill was amended by striking out the name of Philemon B. Hopper, Sen., wherever it occurs and inserting in lieu thereof the name of Lucretia D. Hopper ;

The said bill was then passed with the proposed amendment and returned to the Senate.

Mr. McKaig, chairman of the select committee delivered the following

#### REPORT :

The select committee to which was referred the petition of John McHenry, of Allegany county, praying compensation from the State, for editing and publishing the first three volumes of Harris and McHenry's Maryland Reports, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report.

That the petitioner, John McHenry, Esq., of Allegany county, was the editor, and in conjunction with Thomas Harris, the publisher of the first, second third volumes of Harris and McHenry's Reports, containing the decisions of the General Court and Court of Appeals of Maryland, from about the year 1660, in a regular series down to the year 1800. That in editing and publishing these volumes the said petitioner spent several years (giving up at his entrance into the profession of the law, the prospect of a lucrative practice,) and devoted the whole of his time to the work. That in searching records, making perquisitions by correspondence, and travelling for notes and papers of the old members of the bar and bench, whose opinions and notes could in any manner illustrate the cases adjudged in the General Court or Court of Appeals, and then penning the whole with his own hand, and preparing them for the press, he had to incur much greater labor and expense than would now be necessary in preparing and publishing the same number of volumes of reports or the same number of decisions of the Court of Appeals.

That from the mass of rough materials, in manuscript of the records of the General Court, and Court of Appeals, the petitioner, with great laborer and industry and assiduous application, selected, and arranged and digested for publication, and had printed at his own private and individual expense, the first three volumes of the said reports. Of the character and value of these reports, in the history of the jurisprudence of Maryland, the committee need not speak. Their value and importance, as containing the early history and decisions of the highest courts of Maryland, in all cases having relation to the location and title to lands, and bearing upon th peculiar local circumstances of the State, from