

Which was read the first time, and Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Chapman, from the committee on Corporations, reported a bill entitled, a supplement to an act entitled, an act to incorporate the Farmers' and Millers Bank of Hagerstown, passed at December session 1835, ch. 318;

Which was read and referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Chapman, from the same committee, made an unfavorable report upon the bill which was referred to the committee entitled, an act supplementary to an act passed at December session 1842, ch. 174, relating to the Tide Water Canal:

Which was read and concurred in, and the bill rejected.

Mr. Waters, of Somerset, from the committee on Grievances and Courts of Justice, to which was referred the bill from the Senate entitled, an act to authorise and empower the several county courts in this State to issue commissions to take testimony in cases therein mentioned, reported the same without amendment;

Which was read the first and by a special order the second time, passed, and sent to the Senate.

Mr. Chapman, from the select committee, to which was referred the petition of the trustees of the poor of Charles county, asking for compensation for their services, made an unfavorable report thereon:

Which was twice read and concurred in.

Mr. Reeder from the special committee, to which was referred the several petitions in relation to the license laws for the sale of ardent spirits, delivered the following

#### REPORT:

The committee to whom was referred the subject of the memorials praying the interposition of the Legislature to suppress the sale of ardent spirits, report they are of opinion, that the subject is of sufficient importance to demand the earnest and deliberate action of the Legislature; public opinion is actively alive to the true character of the subject; and it is believed to be susceptible of proof, that the license system is an encouragement to the sale of ardent spirits, that they exhaust the earth in proportion to the orbit of their use, and are consequently injurious to agriculture; that by their character and operations, they act as a poison to not only the morals of our community, but are eminently destructive to life.— that by the conversion of the produce of the earth into ardent spirits, you abstract a portion of that which is necessary to the support, the improvement, the multiplication and the increase of all domestic animals; that in proportion to the conversion into ardent spirits, do you abstract from the earth a portion of its fruits which should be returned as a compensation for that which has been abstracted; that in proportion to the orbit of their use, do they abstract from the revenue of our country by producing indo-