

On motion of Mr. Stewart,

Leave was granted the committee on Grievances and Courts of Justice, to bring in a bill supplementary to an act passed at October session 1778, ch. 21, entitled, an act for amending and declaring the law in the cases therein mentioned.

On motion of Mr. Graves,

Leave was granted Messrs. Graves, Harrison and Frazier, to bring in a bill to allow the "Methodist Episcopal Church in the city and precincts of Baltimore," to hold certain lands as a burial ground.

On motion of Mr. Patterson,

Leave was granted the Montgomery county delegation, to bring in a bill to fix the compensation of the clerk of the commissioners of Montgomery county.

On motion of Mr. Walker,

Leave was granted the Baltimore county delegation, to bring in a bill to allow John Moke, of Baltimore county, further time to complete his collections.

N. Williams, of Baltimore city, chairman of the select committee, delivered the following

REPORT:

The special committee to which was referred a memorial from citizens of Baltimore, praying for a division of that city into twenty wards, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report, that it is inexpedient to increase the present number of wards in that city, there being at this time fourteen.

By the act of Assembly passed at the session of 1817, chapter 148, it is provided, that when the population in that city amounts to one hundred and twenty thousand, the number of wards shall be sixteen; when the population amounts to one hundred and sixty thousand, the number shall be eighteen; and when the population amounts to two hundred thousand, the number of wards shall be twenty. This committee is of opinion, that there cannot be devised a better or more convenient scale, or proportion of wards to population.

No inconvenience is now occasioned by the present number of wards; and as inequality will from time to time exist, by reason of the more rapid growth of one part of the city, than in another, it is proper that the division into wards should be accordingly corrected. The City Council are now occupied with this subject; and all cause of complaint on this score will be speedily removed. The number of members of the First Branch, is twenty-eight, which is not too numerous; and that of the Second Branch, is fourteen. And the whole body is found to answer all the purposes had in view in its creation, and gives general satisfaction to the people of Baltimore.

Respectfully submitted,

NATH. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

Which was read.