FRIDAY, December 20, 1861, 7½ P. M.

The Clerk of the House of Delegates delivered the follow-lowing message:

By the House of Delegates, December 20th, 1861.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

We have received your message, proposing the appointment of a joint committee of the two Houses, who, with the Governor, should visit the President of the United States, and present to him the importance of having the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad repaired and opened.

We fully appreciate the great result, which you propose to accomplish; and we have confidence in the willingness of the President to afford all practicable protection to the interests of our State. But as this session of the General Assembly is about to close, and the regular sessions soon commence, we prefer that the subject be postponed for more deliberate consideration.

By order,

T. Snowden Thomas, Chief Clerk.

Which was read.

Also, delivered joint resolutions of thanks to Lieut. Russell, Lieut. Sproston and Capt. Purviance;

Which were read the first time, and

Referred to the committee on Militia.

Also, the following bills:

A bill entitled, An act to repeal an act to add new sections to the local laws of Worcester county, under the head of Oysters;

Which was read the first time, and

Referred to the committee on the Chesapeake Bay and its Tributaries.

A bill entitled, An act to repeal sections 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16 of article 55 of the Code of Public General Laws, and chapter 47 of the Acts of the Special Session of the General Assembly, 1861, relating to the duties of the State Librarian, and to substitute therefor the following;

Which was read the first time, and

Referred to Messrs. Eichelberger, Harrison and Blackiston.