

On motion of Mr. Dougherty,

Mr. Hardcastle was excused from further attendance during this session.

The Secretary of the Senate returned the following bills and joint resolutions :

The bill entitled, an act making an appropriation for the Executive contingent fund ;

The bill entitled, An act to authorize Joseph A. Harper and John Greenwood, of Wm., to execute a deed to Richard Smyth;

The bill entitled, An act to authorize David Eyer of School District, No. 89, in Frederick county, to sell and convey to any purchaser all that lot of land called "Simon's Delight," which was conveyed to him by Catharine Weller, for a site for a school house;

Preamble and resolutions in relation to interference by the General Government with the institution of slavery, in the prosecution of the war;

Joint resolutions appertaining to the federal relations of the State of Maryland;

Joint resolutions affecting the prospective relief of our volunteers; and

A joint resolution of thanks to Lieut. Russell, Lieut. Sproston and Capt. Purviance;

Severally endorsed "passed by yeas and nays."

Also, the following message:

*By the Senate,*

December 23d, 1861.

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates:*

We propose, with the concurrence of your Honorable Body, that when the two Houses adjourn to-morrow, they adjourn to meet on Wednesday, the 1st day of January next, at 11 o'clock, A.M.

By order,

C. HARWOOD,

Secretary.

On motion of Mr. Donaldson,

The rules were suspended, to allow him to submit the following