

Tuesday, January 31, 1826.

The house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The additional supplement to an act, entitled, An act for quieting possessions, enrolling conveyances, and securing the estates of purchasers, with the message relative thereto, and the resolution relative to the removal of the old meeting house, were sent to the senate.

The engrossed bills from No 1 to No. 32, inclusive, were severally read, assented to, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Thomas obtained leave to bring in a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Lambert Beard, of Cecil county. Ordered, That Messrs. Thomas, Ridout and Gilpin, report the same.

Mr. Hughes presents a memorial from William Plummer, of Montgomery county, praying he may be permitted to manumit a certain slave therein named; referred to Messrs. Hughes, Willson and Lansdale.

Mr. Teackle reports a bill, entitled, An act to provide a place for the safe keeping of the records of Somerset county.

Mr. Brohawn reports a bill, entitled, An act to authorise John M'Knight to cut a canal therein mentioned in Dorchester county; which was read the second time by special order.

On motion by Mr. Eccleston, the question was put, That the following be added: "Provided, That nothing contained in this act shall be construed to prevent the owner or owners of the land, through which the canal shall be excavated, from using the said canal." Determined in the negative.

The bill was then passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Teackle delivers the following report:

The committee appointed "to devise a plan of public instruction for all the youth of this state," and "to suggest the means proper to sustain the system to be devised," have had the same under consideration, and in pursuance of their appointment, have reported a bill, entitled, An act to provide for the public instruction of youth, in primary schools, throughout this state.

The committee have endeavoured to construct a system, which, if animated by the fostering munificence of the legislature, they are well assured will effectuate the great and interesting object, which it contemplates, and which its title imports, to wit, the general diffusion of useful knowledge, in common or elementary schools, to all the youth, of either sex and of every class in this state.

The bill provides for the selection of a general superintendent, whose duty it shall be to digest and prepare the plans of education, and for the organization, improvement and management of such system as may be adopted, and of such revenues as may be assigned for its support—to prepare and report estimates and expenditures of the said revenues; to superintend the collection, to apportion the funds, and generally to execute all the concerns of that department, without the charge or responsibility of such funds, the said charge and responsibility being entirely reposed in the treasurer of the western shore.

The levy courts of the several counties are required to appoint, annually, nine commissioners, and eighteen other persons, who, together with the commissioners are to be inspectors or supervisors, to visit the schools quarter yearly, and to examine into the qualifications and moral conduct of the different teachers, and to extend a general superintending care over the schools of their respective counties.