

Mr. Richardson submitted the following preamble and order:

Whereas, at the present time it is believed that the ordinary revenue of the State is insufficient to meet the current expenses, and there is no reasonable probability that this unpleasant state of things will cease to exist for some time to come, it therefore becomes the imperious duty of those entrusted with the interest of the State to adopt the most rigid system of economy which may be compatible with the public welfare.

It is therefore ordered, that the Speaker appoint a committee of five, charged with the duty of inquiring what retrenchment can be made in the current expenses of the State without any injury to any of its interests, and that said committee report to this House by bill or otherwise.

Which was twice read.

Mr. Culbreth, moved to strike out the preamble to said order;

Resolved in the affirmative.

The question then recurred, and was put, on the adoption of the order,

Resolved in the affirmative.

In pursuance whereof, the Speaker appointed Messrs. Richardson, Alexander, Kershner, Carpenter and Hicks, the committee.

On motion of Mr. Richardson,

Ordered, That the Speaker appoint a committee of five to enquire whether the contracts for the public printing, made under the law of 1831, have been faithfully complied with, and whether or not the prices paid in pursuance of said law are such, as a due regard to economy and the public interest demands, and whether the great improvements which have been made in the art of printing since the adoption of the present prices, would not enable us to have the necessary printing executed at prices much below those now paid.

In pursuance whereof, the speaker appointed Messrs. Richardson, Culbreth, Buchanan, Handy and Crisfield, to compose the committee.

Mr. Richardson, submitted the following order,

Ordered, That a committee of three, be appointed by the speaker, whose duty it shall be to visit the Penitentiary, in the city of Baltimore, to examine into its condition, and report to this house by bill or otherwise;

Which was twice read.

Mr. Ely, moved to amend said order, by striking out three," and inserting in lieu thereof "five,"