

and the sum of one hundred thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for the said improvement, and shall be paid out of the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, heretofore pledged to the construction of the Pocomoke and Annapessex canal.

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. Handy,

The house took up for consideration the bill entitled, an act to incorporate the St. Martin's canal and navigation company;

Mr. Carpenter, moved to strike out the enacting clause of the bill;

Determined in the negative.

The said bill was then read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

On motion of Mr. Ridgeley,

The house took up for consideration the bill reported by him, entitled, an act for the erection of part of Baltimore and Anne Arundel counties, into a new county, called Howard county, for the purposes herein mentioned;

On motion of Mr. Ridgely,

Said bill was referred to the consideration of the next General Assembly.

Mr. Hood, chairman of the committee on agriculture, delivered the following report.

The committee on agriculture to whom was referred the petition of Pardon Davis, to establish a silk estate by means of funds derived from a lottery, have had the same under consideration and beg leave to report.

Mr. Davis proposes that the State should authorise a lottery to be drawn under the direction of the commissioners of lotteries, to raise the sum of twenty five thousand dollars, to be invested by him in a silk estate in Baltimore, or Anne Arundel county, under the direction of commissioners appointed for that purpose. Mr. Davis to have the supervision of the estate, and educate ten youths a year for ten years in the culture of silk, and after that time the estate to be the property of the projector of this scheme.

The introduction of the culture of silk is an object much to be desired, and the committee in their report heretofore made, have fully expressed their opinions on its importance, to that report the house is respectfully referred, although sincerely desirous to promote its culture in this State, the committee are obliged to decline recommending the adoption of Mr. Davis' proposition. In the first place