

Also, the resolution in favour of the chief and assistant clerks of the house of delegates, endorsed 'dissented from;'

Mr. McLean, being in the chair,

Mr. Maulsby, submitted the following order,

Ordered, That the thanks of the house be unanimously tendered to the honourable Benjamin L. Gantt, for the able dignified, and impartial manner, in which he has discharged the duties of the chair during the present session.

Which was twice read, and adopted.

Mr. Kerr, from the committee on grievances and courts of justice, delivered the following report.

The committee on grievances and courts of justice to whom was referred an order to enquire into the propriety of reporting a bill to divest the Governor of the power to grant a Nolle Prossiqui in any case and limit his power to grant pardon, and to cases where the convict shall be recommended by the court or jury, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report.

That in as much as public policy may at times require the exercise of this power, heretofore lodged with the chief Executive officer of the State, they deem it expedient and wise to continue it to him. The committee are sustained in the view they take of this question, by some of the ablest expounders of constitutional law. The power to grant reprieves and pardons, must necessarily be lodged somewhere, and the committee are unable to point out any better repository of it than that designated by our existing constitution.

They are the less disposed to limit the power at this period, when a change is about taking place in our organic law, well calculated to fix effective responsibility in all cases upon this high officer. They therefore report unfavourably upon the order submitted to them, and ask leave to be discharged from any further consideration of the subject.

All which is respectfully submitted

J. Bozman Kerr, in

behalf of committee on grievances and courts of justice.

Which was read the first and by special order the second time, and concurred in.

Mr. Kerr from the committee on grievances and courts of justice, made an unfavorable report upon the order of the house requiring said committee to enquire into the practicability and expediency of remodeling the judicial districts of this State, so as to equalize the labors of each,