

Myers, a citizen of Maryland, who, under the authority of their owner had arrested certain fugitive slaves from this State found in Pennsylvania, was afterwards himself arrested and indicted in that State for that act. The authorities of Maryland very properly assumed the defence of Myers and appointed Jonathan Meredith, Esq., of Baltimore, as his counsel. Mr. Meredith defended him in the State Court of Pennsylvania, and Myers being convicted, his counsel sued out a writ of error and the case was brought into the Supreme Court to test the Constitutionality of the Pennsylvania Statute. Myers, though convicted, was released upon his own recognizance, and never called up for sentence, nor is there any reason to apprehend he ever will be.

The case in the Supreme Court has never been argued, and looking to the convulsions in which our country is involved, their character and tendency, and the diminished interest we at present possess in such questions as this appeal to the Supreme Court was designed to determine, the policy of a further continuance of that controversy and the continued agitation of the issues involved in it, would seem at least to be very questionable. I submit the subject for your consideration, recommending, however, that whatever action you may think proper to take, that the compensation of the counsel employed in the case should no longer be postponed. He tried the case several years since in Pennsylvania, and has made preparation to argue it in the Supreme Court, and it is due to him and to the State that an appropriation should be made for the payment of his fees.

The accounts of the disbursements from the Executive Contingent Fund, and from the appropriation for repairs and furniture of Government House, expended during the years of 1862 and 1863, have been prepared and with the vouchers relating thereto are ready to be submitted to you. I respectfully request that you will appoint a committee to inspect the same.

Some repairs and alterations about the public buildings were so obviously necessary that I have ventured to have them made.

The house formerly used for storage of fuel, which was only an open shed, had fallen to pieces and a new one was indispensable. I have, therefore, caused a new brick one to be erected, having, after inviting proposals from several, accepted the lowest offer, and the building has been lately finished in conformity to the agreement, and I recommend an appropriation to amount of the contract price.

The want of more Committee Rooms for accommodation of