

On motion of Mr. White,

Ordered, that the committee on the coloured population, be instructed to enquire into the expediency of abolishing the restrictions upon the removal of slaves into this State by their owners, citizens of, or non-residents seized of land therein, when such removal is made for the bona fide purpose of securing their labour and service, and report to this house by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Maulsby, chairman of the joint committee on the Penitentiary, delivered the following report:

*To the General Assembly of Maryland:*

The joint committee of the Senate and House of Delegates, appointed at the last session of the General Assembly, to "investigate the general affairs of the Penitentiary of this State, during the recess of the Legislature, with power to send for persons and papers, and examine witnesses on oath," and who were particularly instructed "to enquire into the finances of the institution, and how far the several mechanical employments therein prosecuted, interfere with the mechanics of Baltimore or other parts of the State," and who were required to "report the result of their examination, together with such testimony as they may collect, and such suggestions as may grow out of it, for the improvement of the institution and the interest of the State," to the present General Assembly, beg to report in part:

That they have given to the subjects committed to their charge great attention, and devoted as much time to their examination as the pressing nature of their other engagements permitted. They summoned before them, and interrogated a great number of witnesses, and, in order that their answers might embrace all the information they had on all the questions treated of in the order appointing the committee. The inquiries propounded to them, were made as full and comprehensive as possible. Embodied in the answers will be found much information and many useful suggestions, and they are herewith submitted.

The committee have agreed upon and are now preparing a report on the several subjects embraced in the order of their appointment, in which they will recommend essential changes in the management of the Penitentiary and its general economy, and propose several, as they believe, important improvements in prison discipline, that will, if sanctioned by the Legislature, result to the advantage of society, promote the interests of the State, and subserve the great designs of Penitentiary punishments. The committee have been deeply impressed with the importance of that branch of their duties which relates to the interference of convict labor with the mechanical interests, and have anxiously and attentively considered. They will propose some alteration on this head, which they confidently believe will free the institution from many of the objections and complaints urged against it in this regard. All this, and such suggestions as have sprung from a careful consideration of the testimony and thorough personal examination of the institution in all its departments, together with a fund of information