

of persons who are *land renters*, and who work their lands by hired labor. It would, by suddenly withdrawing from the State a large portion of the laboring population, immediately occasion a demand for labor which could not be supplied. The hire of slaves would perhaps be doubled; and even then, from a scarcity of labor, many of the lands which are now in cultivation would be thrown out as common, for the want of hands to till them. The committee believe that the same end will in time be accomplished by the exertions of the colonization society, which, by their gradual operation, will not be attended by those disastrous effects which would result from the course recommended by the memorial. The committee therefore think that the prayer of the petitioners ought not be granted.

Mr. Jones presented the petition of Margaret M. Dickehut for a divorce,

Which was read and referred to the committee on divorces.

The bill entitled an act to divorce James H. Knotts, of Queen Anne's county, from his wife, Catharine Knotts, was read the third time, rejected and returned to the house of delegates.

On motion of Mr. Bowie,

It was ordered that no bill, resolution or order shall originate in this body from and after the 23d inst.

Mr. Tidball, from the committee to which was referred the bill entitled an act to authorise the commissioners of Washington county to appoint judges and fix the place of holding elections in the ninth election district in said county, reported favorably thereon.

It was read the second and by special order the third time, passed and returned to the house of delegates.

Mr. Bruee, from the committee to which was referred the bill entitled an act to revise and alter the divisional lines between election districts number one and number two, in Allegany county, reported favorably thereon.

It was read the second and by special order the third time, passed and returned to the house of delegates.

Mr. Lee, from the committee on judicial proceedings, to which was referred the bill entitled a supplement to an act of Assembly passed the 9th of February, 1836, chapter 41, entitled an act to authorise and empower the surveyor of Frederick county to cause an alphabetical record entry to be made of all the original land certificates in said county in the surveyor's office, reported favorably thereon.

It was read the second and by special order the third time, passed and returned to the house of delegates.

Mr. Jones, from the committee to which the leave was granted, reported a bill entitled a further supplement to an act to provide for electing commissioners for Baltimore county, and prescribing their powers and duties, passed at December session, 1826, chapter 217,

Which was read the first, and by special order the second time, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.