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ANNAPOLIS :

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1809.

Legislature of Maryland.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1809.

THE house met. Present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Wharton and Mr. Hebb appeared in the house.

The bill to authorize and empower the justices of the levy court of Dorchester county to assess and levy a sum of money for the purpose therein mentioned, and the bill to open a road in Frederick county, were read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Tabbs presented a petition from Peregrine Fitzhugh, a revolutionary officer; Mr. Blake presented a petition from George W. Ireland, late sheriff of Calvert county, praying a further time to complete his collection;

Mr. Gaither presented a petition from Thomas Nichols, of Montgomery county, praying to be compensated for building a bridge over Seneca branch; Mr. Bayard presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Allegany county, praying that the bounty for killing wolves may be increased;

Mr. Worthington presented a petition from the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church on Fell's Point, in the city of Baltimore, praying to be authorized to sell part of the property thereof; and Mr. Randall presented a petition from sundry officers and privates of the battalion commanded by major William Nace, of Baltimore county, praying to be exempted from attending regimental meetings; which were read and referred.

Mr. Williams delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorizing Joseph M'Geney, late sheriff of Anne-Arundel county, to complete his collection; Mr. M. Brown delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorizing the levy court of Baltimore county to levy a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned; Mr. J. Thomas delivers a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act to incorporate companies to make several turnpike roads through Baltimore county, and for other purposes; Mr. Archer delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of John H. Chamblaine, an insolvent debtor; Mr. Hopper delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorizing Solomon C. Blake, late sheriff of Queen-Anne's county, to complete his collection; and Mr. Harriman delivers a bill, entitled, An act concerning arbitrations, and for the more speedy administration of justice in this state, and a bill, entitled, An act to open a road in Baltimore county; which were severally read.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill to open a road to Swan creek, the bill to lay out and make public a road therein mentioned in Cecil county, the bill to authorize a lottery or lotteries in Frederick county, the bill to authorize George Greager, jun. to complete his collection, the supplement to the act for the recovery of small debts out of court, severally endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed. The bill to repeal all such parts of the acts of assembly of this state as require the payment of twenty-five shillings for a marriage license, endorsed, "will not pass." And a letter from the executive, enclosing the proceedings of the legislature of the state of Vermont on the several resolutions proposed by the legislatures of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, for amending the constitution of the United States; which were read and referred.

On motion of Mr. Brent, the following order was read.

Ordered, That this house sit from five until eight in the evening for the dispatch of business during the remainder of the session.

And the question was put, That the house assent to the same? Determined in the negative, yeas 27, nays 37.

On motion of Mr. Brent, the following order was read.

Ordered, That those members who do not attend the meeting of this house at 9 o'clock every morning, shall not receive their per diem for that day, unless they be prevented from attending by sickness.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill concerning crimes and punishments, and after making some amendments thereto, the further consideration thereof was postponed until to-morrow.

The bill to open a road in Frederick county, was read the second time and passed.

Mr. A. Dorsey presented a petition from Francis Coole, of Anne-Arundel county, praying to be supported out of the poor's house, a petition from Jasper E. Tilley, of Anne-Arundel county, praying further regulations relative to his ferry, and a petition from Eliza Brown, of Anne-Arundel county, counter to the petition from the heirs of Richard Stringer; Mr. Randall presented a petition from John Welch, and others, of Baltimore county, praying commissioners may review the road through said Welch's land; and Mr. Baer presented a petition from Daniel Arthur, of Frederick county, praying a divorce; which were read and referred.

Mr. Bayard delivers a bill, entitled, A further supplement to the act, entitled, An act for the destruction of wolves in Allegany county; which was read.

The bill for the relief and benefit of Horatio Moore, of Charles county, was read the second time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Williams, Leave given to bring in a bill authorizing the levy court of Prince-George's county to levy a sum of money on the assessable property of said county for a certain purpose.

The house, according to order, proceeded to the second reading of the resolutions approving of the conduct of the general government in the negotiation with the British minister, and, on motion of Mr. Winder, the question was put, That the further consideration of the same be referred to the next general assembly? Determined in the negative, yeas 29, nays 34.

On motion of Mr. J. H. Thomas, the question was put, That the following be inserted after the first word "whereas" to wit: "The free people of Maryland are fully competent to decide for themselves upon a point of executive policy, which concerns their interest in common with their fellow-citizens of the United States: And whereas on fuller information than we here possess, and on a thorough view of the causes and circumstances of an affair, which they are now particularly entitled to know and investigate, the people themselves may be safely trusted to form their own opinion, without any immediate guidance or direction from the state legislature, not acting in the usual course of that authority which is derived solely from the people; therefore Resolved, That this general assembly do not perceive how it is rendered a matter of duty or expediency, or that it is in any manner expected of us by our constituents, that we should, at this period, unnecessarily consume the public time and public money in deliberating and pronouncing a judgment upon the tenor of the late communications between the secretary of state and the British minister, which terminated in the dismissal of that minister; but whenever the occasion requires the faithful services of the country, as against any foreign power whatever, we already consider ourselves as solemnly and individually pledged to act with promptness, and unite with one accord, in every fair and patriotic effort to sustain the independence and dignity of the American government, and preserve inviolate the rights and honour of the American name?" Determined in the negative, yeas 31, nays 36.

On motion of Mr. Brent, the question was put, That the following be inserted after the last resolution? to wit:

Resolved, That our senators in congress be instructed, and our representatives requested, and they are hereby instructed and requested, to support the government of our country in whatever consequences may flow from the dismissal of Francis J. Jackson, the British minister, and to carry those measures into effect, which that almost unprecedented and unfortunate occurrence may make it necessary to adopt; this legislature, representing the free and independent yeomanry of Maryland, pledges itself for them in their property, their lives, and their sacred honours.

Resolved in the affirmative.

The question was then put, That the house assent to the whole of the resolutions? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 35, nays 29.

The report of the committee on the communications of the executive relative to the resolutions of the legislature of Massachusetts, was read the second time, and the question put, That the house concur therewith, and assent to the resolutions therein contained? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 35, nays 27.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1809.

THE house met. Present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The bill for the relief and benefit of Horatio Moore, the bill to open a road in Frederick county, the resolutions approving of the conduct of the general government in the negotiation with the British minister, and the resolution disapproving of the resolutions of Massachusetts, were sent to the senate.

On motion of Mr. Winder, a resolution was read, to suspend all proceedings against John Wilkins, a late sheriff of Somerset county, and his securities, on a judgment obtained against them by the state for a balance due by said Wilkins, and to release him from the payment of nine per cent. thereon, on his paying the balance with six per cent. interest.

The bill for the relief of Edward Ford, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

The report on the petition of George W. Bradford was read the second time, and the question put, That the house concur therewith, and assent to the resolution therein contained? Resolved in the affirmative, and sent to the senate.

The bill authorizing Zachariah Duvall to complete his collection, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill for the relief of John Latour, endorsed, "will not pass." The bill authorizing the levy court of Washington county to levy a sum of money for the purpose therein mentioned, endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed.

The supplement to the act to enlarge the powers of the trustees of the poor in the several counties therein designated, endorsed, "will pass with the proposed amendments; which amendments were read. And the bill to build a bridge over the river Susquehanna, endorsed, "will pass with the proposed amendments;" which amendments were agreed to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

The bill to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from the town of Westminster, in Frederick county, through Herman's Gap, to Hagar's-town, in Washington county, was read the second time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Brent, the following resolution was read.

Resolved, That the treasurer of the western shore of this state be and he is hereby authorized to take and subscribe for 250 shares in the Hagar's-town turnpike road company for the state of Maryland, when the commissioners open their books in the city of Baltimore for obtaining subscribers thereto.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill concerning crimes and punishments, and after making some amendments thereto, it was postponed until to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. C. Dorsey, Ordered, That the further supplement to the act, entitled, An act respecting the equity jurisdiction of the county courts, have a second reading on to-morrow.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the register of the land-office, enclosing an account of fees, agreeably to an order of this house; which was read.

Mr. Herbert presented a petition from Alexius Boone, late sheriff of Prince-George's county, praying further time to complete his collection; Mr. Worthington presented a petition from William Merriam, sheriff of Baltimore county, praying further provision for the reception of insolvent debtors in Baltimore gaol; Mr. Archer presented a petition from Jason Moore, of Harford county, praying he may be authorized to sell the real property of Sophia Moore, and others; Mr. Ireland presented a petition from William Dixon, a revolutionary soldier, and a petition from William R. Sewell, of Calvert county, praying a special act of insolvency; and Mr. Frazier presented a petition from Mary Anne Hillman, of Dorchester county, praying a divorce; which were severally read and referred.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning.

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The house adjourns till to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1809.

THE house met. Present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The bill to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from the town of Westminster to Hagar's-town, was sent to the senate.

On motion of Mr. Brent, the following message was read.

By the House of Delegates, Dec. 21, 1809. Gentlemen of the Senate,

The members of this house, feeling anxious to close the present session of this legislature, and well aware of the heavy expenses of the state attendant upon a protracted session, and fully convinced that the alarming situation of our national affairs demands a careful economy of the public finances, propose, with the concurrence of your house, to meet at five o'clock this evening, for the purpose of signing and sealing the bills already engrossed, and do appoint — to join such gentlemen as may be fixed upon by your body to wait upon the governor and to request his attendance in the senate chamber at the above hour for this purpose.

The bill authorizing Joseph M'Geney, late sheriff of Anne-Arundel county, to complete his collection, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Bowles delivers a bill, entitled, An act relative to the judges of the court of appeals, and of the county courts; which was read.

The report on the petition of John S. Brookes was read the second time, the resolution therein contained assented to, and sent to the senate.

The bill to make valid a deed from William D. Glover, to Henrietta Glover, now Henrietta Rich, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill respecting the land records of Saint-Mary's county, the supplement to the act to lay out a certain road in Baltimore county, the bill to authorize and empower the court of appeals to hear and determine the matter of the decree of the late court of appeals, &c. and the bill to authorize a lottery in Frederick-town for the purpose of paving Market-street, in said town, severally endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed. The bill to fix and establish Argyle alley in the city of Baltimore, endorsed, "will pass with the proposed amendment;" which amendment was agreed to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed. And the resolution relative to repairing and furnishing the government-house, endorsed, "assented to."

The amendments to the supplement to the act to enlarge the powers of the trustees of the poor in the several counties therein designated, were agreed to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

The bill annulling the marriage of Peregrine Emory and Kitty E. Emory his wife, was read the second time, and the question put, Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Holbrooke appeared in the house. The house resumed the consideration of the bill concerning crimes and punishments, and after making further amendments thereto, and reading the bill throughout, Mr. J. H. Thomas moved the following order.

Ordered, That the bill, entitled, An act concerning crimes and punishments, be referred to the next general assembly of Maryland, and as the bill proposes, at the expense of the state, to establish the penitentiary-house at Baltimore for a new system of punishments in Maryland, that it be published with the acts of this session for the consideration of the people.

And the question put, That the house assent to the same? Determined in the negative, yeas 19, nays 46.

The question was then put, Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 55, nays 12.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill authorizing Zachariah Duvall to complete his collection, the bill to widen a road in Frederick county, the bill to authorize and empower the justices of the levy court of Dorchester county to assess and levy a sum of money for the purpose therein mentioned, the bill to alter all such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as relate to voters and qualification of voters, and the bill for the relief and benefit of Horatio Moore, severally endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Gaither presented a petition from Elizabeth Austin, of Montgomery county, praying to be supported out of the poor's house; Mr. Wharton presented a petition from the commissioners and trustees of Rock-Ville academy, praying a donation; and Mr. Worthington presented a petition from Edward Aitquith and John W. Glenn, praying the right of the state to certain property may be released to them, and a petition from Louis Rodrigues, of the city of Baltimore, praying a repeal of the law establishing a medical society; which were severally read and referred.

The house proceeded to the second reading of the bill respecting a monument or statue to the memory of Washington, and, on motion of Mr. Worthington, it was postponed until to-morrow.

According to order, the further supplement to the act respecting the equity jurisdiction of the county courts, was read the second time, and, on motion of Mr. J. Brown, That the further consideration thereof be postponed? it was determined in the negative.

The question was then put, Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 49, nays 9.

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The question was then put, Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 49, nays 9.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1809.

THE house met. Present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.