

The further supplement to the act respecting the equity jurisdiction of the county courts, and the bill concerning crimes and punishments, were sent to the senate.

On motion of Mr. Streett, Ordered, That the bill to lay out and open a road in Harford county, be recommitted for amendment.

Mr. Streett delivers the said bill as amended; which was read.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the clerk and register of wills of Dorchester county, enclosing an account of their fees, in pursuance of an order of this house; which was read.

Mr. Streett delivers a favourable report on the petition of Aquila Jones; which was read.

Mr. Hilleary delivers a favourable report on the petition of George P. Hinckle; which was read.

Mr. Worthington delivers a favourable report on the petition of Edward and Samuel Norwood, and others; which was twice read and concurred with.

Mr. A. Dorsey delivers an unfavourable report on the petition of John Stringer and E. Brown, which was twice read and concurred with.

Mr. Wilson presented a petition from William Allen, an old soldier; which was read and referred.

Mr. Harryman delivers an unfavourable report on the petition of sundry inhabitants of Frederick and Baltimore counties; which was twice read and concurred with.

Mr. Wilson presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Worcester county, praying a law may pass for the preservation of wild deer in said county; Mr. Stevens presented a petition from the president & directors of the Branch Bank at Easton, praying they may be vested with a part of the public ground for the purpose of building a bank house thereon; Mr. Griffith presented a petition from Anthony Thompson, of Dorchester county, praying the chancellor may be authorized and directed to hear and determine an appeal between him and Mr. Looeckerman; Mr. Worthington presented a petition from Deborah Bartleson, of the city of Baltimore, praying a divorce, also a petition from Henrietta Miller, of the city of Baltimore, praying a divorce, and a memorial from the president and directors of the Baltimore water company, praying for a bridge across the Falls; and Mr. A. Dorsey presented a petition from John Worthington, of Anne-Arundel county, praying to be compensated for damages sustained by a road through his land; which were read and referred.

On motion of Mr. J. Brown, Ordered, That when this house adjourn it will adjourn to meet at five o'clock this evening.

Mr. Baer delivers a bill, entitled, An act annulling the marriage of Daniel Arthur, and Magdalen his wife, of Frederick county, and a bill, entitled, An act annulling the marriage of Barbara Hamersla, and Charles Hamersla her husband, of Frederick county; Mr. Worthington delivers a bill, entitled, A further act for the relief of John Charles F. Chirac, of the city of Baltimore; Mr. Gaither delivers a bill, entitled, An act to alter and change the place of holding the elections for the first election district in Montgomery county, and a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Thomas Nicholls, of Montgomery county; Mr. Blake delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorizing George W. Ireland, late sheriff of Calvert county, to complete his collection; Mr. Bowles delivers a bill, entitled, A further additional supplement to an act, entitled, An act to regulate and discipline the militia of this state; Mr. Harryman delivers a bill, entitled, An act to authorize and empower the levy court of Baltimore county to assess and levy a sum of money for the support and maintenance of John Boyer, Thomas Fowler, and Isabella Fowler his wife; Mr. A. Dorsey delivers a bill, entitled, An act to open a road down Patapsco Falls, in Baltimore county; Mr. Archer delivers a bill, entitled, An act to empower Jason Moore to sell and convey certain lands therein mentioned; Mr. Lecompte delivers a bill, entitled, An act to authorize a lottery to raise a sum of money for the purpose of cutting and opening a canal from the head of Black Water river to the head of Parson's creek, in Dorchester county, and a bill, entitled, An act to authorize a lottery to raise a sum of money for building a wharf at Cambridge, in Dorchester county; Mr. Jump delivers a bill, entitled, An act to lay out and open a road in Caroline county; Mr. Worthington delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Sophia Bland, and a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Theodorick Bland; Mr. Plater delivers a bill, entitled, An act concerning the register of wills of Saint-Mary's county; Mr. Streett delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Aquila Jones, of Harford county; Mr. Herbert delivers a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act for the establishment of vestries for the several parishes of this state; and Mr. Worthington delivers a bill, entitled, An act to release the right of the state of Maryland in lots number forty, forty-one and forty-two, in the city of Baltimore; which were severally read.

Mr. Seth presented a petition from Stephen Reyner, of Talbot county, praying a special act of insolvency; which was read and referred.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the register of wills of Talbot county, enclosing an account of his fees; which was read.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from Westminster to Hagar's town, endorsed, "will pass with the proposed amendments;" which amendments were read.

The bill respecting a monument or statue to the memory of Washington, was read the second time and passed.

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

Ordered, That this house sit on Sunday and Monday next for the dispatch of public business; and on motion of Mr. Winder, the question was put, That the word "Sunday" be stricken out? Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. A. Dorsey, the question was put, That the word "Monday" be stricken out? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 32, nays 23.

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

Ordered, That the committee of claims close the journal of accounts, including Sunday the 24th instant.

And the question was put, That the house assent thereto? Determined in the negative.

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

Ordered, That when this house adjourns this evening they adjourn until Tuesday morning next 9 o'clock.

And the question was put, That the house assent to the same? Determined in the negative, yeas 25, nays 31.

On motion of Mr. Archer, the question was put, That the further consideration of the bill to regulate officers fees, be referred to the next general assembly? Determined in the negative, yeas 13, nays 41.

On motion of Mr. Winder, the question was put, That the following be added to the rules of the house? to wit:

A motion to reconsider or strike out for the purpose of inserting or amending, together with the amendment or matter proposed to be inserted, shall be received, and the question taken on it as one entire motion, but any member may have the same divided, agreeably to the 13th rule of the house.

Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. C. Dorsey, the question was put, That Leave be given to bring in a bill, entitled, An additional supplemental act respecting the equity jurisdiction of the county courts? Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. J. Brown, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill for the regulation of officers fees; Mr. Winder in the chair. After sometimes spent therein, the committee rose, and the chairman reported progress, and asked for leave to sit again.

The question was put, That the committee have leave to sit again? Resolved in the affirmative.

The house adjourns till 5 o'clock.

Five o'clock, P. M.

THE house met.

Mr. Worthington presented a memorial from Henry Margaret Ogle, of the city of Annapolis, praying to be heard by counsel at the bar of the house in opposition to the supplement to the act for quieting possessions, and securing and confirming the estates of purchasers; which was read.

Mr. Tabbs presented a petition from the president and directors of the Patowmack company, praying that relinquishments of interests in said company may be recorded in the books of said company; Mr. Davis presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Harford county, praying for bridges over the waters on the post-road between Susquehanna and Baltimore; Mr. Williams presented a petition from capt. John Iiams, of Anne-Arundel county, stating, that in the discharge of his duty as a militia officer he lost his arm, and praying relief; Mr. Groome presented a petition from Thomas Taylor, late sheriff of Cecil county, praying further time to complete his collection, and a petition from James Cochran, praying further time to complete his collection; Mr. Tabbs presented a petition from the president and directors of the Patowmack company, praying a lottery for the benefit thereof; and Mr. Sellman presented a petition from Jasper E. Tilly, of Anne-Arundel county, praying further time to complete his collection, and a petition from Joseph McConey, late sheriff of Anne-Arundel county, praying a further compensation for forwarding the laws and votes and proceedings of June session, 1809; which were read.

Mr. Baer delivers an unfavourable report on the petition of sundry inhabitants of Frederick county; which was twice read and concurred with.

The speaker laid before the house letters from the clerk and register of wills in Cecil county, relative to their fees; which were read.

Mr. Herbert delivers a bill, entitled, An act to make public a road in Prince-George's county; Mr. C. Dorsey delivers a bill, entitled, An act to locate a road in Charles county; Mr. Seth delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Stephen Reyner, of Talbot county, an insolvent debtor; Mr. C. Dorsey delivers a bill, entitled, An act relating to constables bonds; and Mr. Tabbs delivers a bill, entitled, An act to regulate the market-house in the town of Williams Port, in Washington county; which were severally read.

On motion of Mr. Archer, the further consideration of the bill to ascertain the allowance to the members of the general assembly, &c. was referred to the 1st day of May, 1820.

Mr. Davis presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Harford county, praying a law may pass to prevent gill nets in the Chelapeake bay; and Mr. Forwood presented a petition from Rebecca Allen, and others, of Harford county, praying a longer time to pay their debts; which were read and referred.

Mr. Herbert delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorizing Alexius Boone, late sheriff of Prince-George's county, to complete his collection; which was read.

The bill to lay out and open a road from the Little Falls of Tonoloway creek, in Washington county, to the Pennsylvania line, was read the second time and passed.

On motion, the question was put, That the house adjourn until Tuesday morning nine o'clock? Determined in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Archer, Ordered, That be further additional supplement to an act, entitled, An act to direct descents, be postponed until Wednesday next.

According to order, the house proceeded to the second reading of the bill for the appointment by the people of the justices of the peace in the several counties of this state, which being read throughout, the question was put, Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 42, nays 16.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1809.

THE house met, but a sufficient number to form a quorum not appearing, the members present adjourn till Monday morning nine o'clock.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1809.

THE house met. A quorum not attending, adjourned till tomorrow morning.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1809.

THE house met. A quorum not attending, adjourned till to-morrow morning.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

December 19.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

MR. M'CON, from the committee on so much of the message of the president of the United States as relates to our foreign relations, reported a bill respecting the commercial intercourse between the United States and Great-Britain and France, and for other purposes.

[The 1st section prohibits all public vessels belonging to Great-Britain or France from entering the harbours of the United States, subject to certain specified exceptions.

The 2d section prescribes the punishment of those who shall aid the infraction of this provision.

The 3d section prohibits all vessels sailing under the flag of Great-Britain or France, or owned in whole or in part by any citizen of either, from entering the harbours of the United States.

The 4th section prohibits the importation into the United States of goods from Great-Britain or Ireland and France, and their colonies; or of goods from any foreign port which are the growth, produce or manufacture of Great-Britain or France; unless in vessels owned wholly by citizens of the U. States.

The above provisions to take immediate effect.

The 5th section prohibits, after the 15th of April next, the importation of goods from Great-Britain and France, and their colonies, unless imported directly therefrom.

The 6th, 7th and 8th sections affix penalties to the infraction of these provisions.

The 9th section authorizes the president in case either France or Great-Britain shall revoke or modify her edicts, as that they shall cease to violate the neutral commerce of the United States, to declare the same by proclamation, after which the prohibitions of this act on the commerce of the nation so doing shall cease.

The 11th section repeals the act to amend and continue in force certain parts of the act, entitled, An act to interdict the commercial intercourse between the United States and Great-Britain and France, and their dependencies, and for other purposes.

The 12th section limits this act to the end of the next session of congress.]

The bill was read a second time, referred to a committee of the whole, and made the order of the day for Friday next.

FOREIGN LICENSERS TO TRADE.

Mr. Newton, from the committee of commerce and manufactures, reported a bill to deprive in certain cases, vessels of their American character, and to prevent, under certain disabilities, any citizen of the U. S. taking a license to navigate the ocean or trade with any foreign or independent power. Twice read and committed to a committee of the whole.

FROM THE WHIG.

Collector's office, Norfolk, Dec. 13, 1809.

SIR,

OBSERVING that Mr. Jackson, the late British minister, had lodged a formal complaint with the government for an assault offered by the citizens of Hampton to an officer belonging to the frigate Africaine, and magnifying this insult into a demand for passports of safety for himself and family, I conceived it my duty to make immediate application to the collector of Hampton, with a request that he would have the facts relative to this transaction fully investigated, and certified. I have this morning received from him the enclosed documents, which I haile to transmit to you.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
With very high respect,  
Your obedient servant,  
LARKIN SMITH.

The hon. Robert Smith Esq. Secretary of State, Washington.

To David Brodie, Esq. collector of the port of Hampton.  
Hampton, 12th Dec. 1809.

SIR,

I received your note of the 11th inst. respecting the conduct of the British officers from the Africaine frigate while in Hampton.

I consider it an incumbent duty, being thus officially called upon, to give such a narrative of facts as may tend to an elucidation of the conduct of one of the British officers, the effect of which has, I presume, given rise to this inquiry. The day previous to the sailing of the Africaine frigate from Hampton Roads to Annapolis, conveying the late British minister, a few of the ship's officers were on shore at Hampton. Returning home I was informed by the citizens, that during my absence one of the officers had, in a very disrespectful manner, entered my house, and was seen shortly afterwards retiring precipitately. The officer being pointed out to me, I accosted him, in presence of the other officers, nearly as follows. "You have taken the liberty, Sir, to offer an unprovoked insult, by entering my house in a disrespectful manner. What were your motives for such conduct? The rights of the citizens here are held sacred, and no man is suffered to infringe them with impunity. You, Sir, have been permitted, with the rest of the officers, to walk in our streets unmolested. It is strange, considering the political situation of the times, that you should be among the first to insult the citizens of Hampton."

The officer attempted to extenuate the offence, by saying that he did not mean an insult. I afterwards left him and the other officers in company with several citizens who were expressing their indignation at his conduct.

Shortly after the return of the frigate to Hampton roads, I received several verbal messages from the same officer, requesting permission to make me a personal apology for his recent conduct. I returned him this answer, "that the citizens of Hampton considered the indignity offered to me as a general insult, and that if he wished to apologize to them all, so through me, I was willing to hear what he had to say on that subject." Accordingly this officer was introduced to me at my office, by the name of Jackson, and after acknowledging that he did enter my house, made the apology required; he then observed, that he was fearful, upon a future investigation of this subject, that he might sustain much injury, as he had reason to expect a public trial on his return to England.

In order to correct misrepresentation, I must here remark, that during the continuance of Mr. Jackson in my house, he was not seen by any of my family, except servants.

I am, Sir,  
With respect, your obt. servant,  
ROBERT ARMISTEAD.

Eliz. City county, to wit:

I do hereby certify, that Robert Armistead appeared before me, Charles Jennings, one of the commonwealth's justices of the peace for the said county, and made oath to the truth of the within statement. Given under my hand, this 12th day of December, 1809.

CHARLES JENNINGS, J. P.

Not long after a commotion in the town of Hampton, in consequence of the indiscretion of an officer, whose name was Jackson, belonging to the ship Africaine, in entering in a very disrespectful manner the private dwelling of Mr. Robert Armistead, a citizen of Hampton, I happened on board the said ship