

The bill, entitled, An act for the benefit of Thomas Moore, of Cecil county, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Bradford delivers a petition from James Lee Morgan, of Harford county, praying for a special act of insolvency; which was read and referred to Messrs. Bradford, Sewell and Glenn.

Mr. Griffith delivers a bill, entitled, An act to prevent the erection of booths within two miles of any Methodist camp or quarterly meeting in Dorchester county; which was read.

The house proceeded to the second reading of the report on the petition of Allen Townsend, of Allegany county. On motion by Mr. Banning, the question was put, That the further consideration of the said report be postponed? Resolved in the affirmative.

The speaker laid before the house the following letter from the treasurer of the eastern shore:

Eastern Shore Treasury Office, 7th December, 1816.

Sir,—I have sent my son with my treasury accounts to pass with the committee of claims.

The perplexed state of bank paper has occasioned some difficulty between the public debtors and me, in consequence of my refusing to receive into the treasury the paper of any Maryland eastern shore bank except that of Easton.

On the 4th June I received notice from the cashier of the Easton Bank, (in which I had been in the habit of placing the state's money for safe keeping) that no paper of the above description would be received on deposit in that bank; consequently from that day I have refused to receive such paper in the treasury which has given umbrage to some of the debtors. I shall however continue to refuse it, until I shall be instructed to the contrary by the proper authority.

I take leave to suggest to the honourable the legislative body, that in my humble opinion, it will promote the interest of the state to pass a law to compel the county clerks to receive and account with the treasurer for the retailers and pedlers licences, instead of the sheriffs. These licences are issued by the clerks and it is better, safer, and more convenient for them to receive the tax than the sheriffs. Seeing that we have ten insolvent sheriffs for one insolvent clerk; it will also simplify the revenue business. At present the tax for retailers licences granted in the recess of court, is received by the clerks, but the law does not require them to pay the money to the treasurer; by the original act the sheriff is the accounting officer. See act 1784, c. 7, s. 7. Hence should a case arise that may require suit against a clerk to recover money for retailers licences so received, it is doubtful if a judgment can be had on a suit brought on the clerk's bond.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILL: RICHARDSON.

To the honourable the Speaker of the house of delegates.

Which was read and referred to the committee of claims.

On motion by Mr. Hambleton, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to alter such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as relates to the time of holding the elections. Ordered That Messrs. Hambleton, Ringgold, Stoddert, Bowles, and Semmes, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Potts delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorising a lottery for raising a sum of money to buy a lot of ground in Frederick-Town, in Frederick county, and build a church and parsonage house thereon which was read the first and second time by special order and passed.

The bill, entitled, An act for the relief of James Deane, of Saint Mary's county, and the bill, entitled, An act to change the place of holding the elections in the third election district in Caroline county, were severally read the second time and passed.

On motion by Mr. Long, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, A supplement to the act, entitled, An act to provide for the organization and regulation of the courts of common law in this state, and for the administration of justice therein. Ordered, That Messrs. Long, Dennis and Causin, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On motion by Mr. Lecompte, the following order was read and adopted.

Ordered, That Messrs. Lecompte, Potts, Harrison, Stoddert and Banning, be a committee to enquire into the expediency of discontinuing so much of the act, entitled, An act to authorise the banks of the state to issue small notes for a limited time, and for other purposes, as authorises the several banking institutions within this state to issue bank notes of a less denomination than five dollars; and also whether any, and if any, what measures should be taken to compel the payment in specie of all notes that have already been issued by the banks of this state of a less denomination than one dollar.

The clerk of the senate delivers the following message:

BY THE SENATE, December 9, 1816.

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,

The senate are prepared to proceed to the election of a governor for the ensuing year, as proposed in your message. No other person is put in nomination by the senate. We have appointed Messrs. Winchester and Van-Horn to join the gentlemen of your house to examine the ballot boxes.

By order,

R. HARWOOD, Clk.

Which was read.

On motion by Mr. Stoddert, Ordered, That the bill, entitled, An act for appointing a printer to the state, be made the order of the day for Wednesday next.

The speaker laid before the house a report from the clerk of Dorchester county court relative to the attendance of the judges of that court; which was read and referred to the committee of grievances and courts of justice.

The house having qualified according to the constitution and form of government, proceeded to the choice of governor; and the ballots being deposited in the ballot box, the gentlemen named struck retired, and after some time returned and reported, that General Charles Ridgely of Hampton, had sixty-two votes, and General Robert Bowie had seventeen votes. Whereupon Resolved, That General Charles Ridgely, of Hampton, be, and he is hereby declared to be, governor of the state of Maryland.

On motion by Mr. R. K. Watts, the following message was read, agreed to, and sent to the senate.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, December 9, 1816.

Gentlemen of the Senate,

The honourable Charles Ridgely, of Hampton, having been elected governor of the state, we have appointed Messrs. R. K. Watts and Lecompte, jointly with such gentlemen as may be named by your house