

known, the history of the title cannot be traced. The proposed index will supply this deficiency, and always insure the ready examination of the title of any land, the taker up, or the name of which is known. The committee therefore respectfully submit it as their opinion, that a law should be passed, authorising and requiring such an index to be made up to the present time, and continue for the future. The committee are of opinion that it would be difficult to fix the compensation for making up the index for the past, and think on this subject it would be advisable to refer the compensation of this part of the work to the governor and council; but that for all future grants or surveys of land the expense of making the index should be compensated by a small additional fee to be paid by the party taking up the land and receiving the patent.

By order, J. W. BORDLEY, Clk.

Which was read the first and second time by special order and concurred in.

On motion by Mr. Dennis, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act relative to the land office. Ordered, That Messrs. Dennis, Causin and Bowles be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The house adjourns until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY, January 18, 1817.

The house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. The bill to abolish all such parts of the constitution and form of government as relates to the time and manner of electing the senate, and the mode of filling up vacancies in that body, was sent to the senate.

The bill for the benefit of Edmond Evers, of Anne-Arundel county, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Warner delivers a petition from Robert Trail Spence, of Baltimore county, praying that a law may be passed authorising him to stop and shut up so much of the road in said county called the Old Coal Road, as runs through his land; which was read and referred to Messrs. Warner, Bowles and R. Dorsey.

The bill to lay out and make public the roads therein mentioned in Harford county, and for other purposes; the bill to extend the powers of the levy court of Washington county, and the bill to make valid a deed from Thomas Wedding, and wife, of Charles county, to Elijah Moore, formerly of Charles county, but now a resident of the state of Ohio, were severally read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

On motion by Mr. Thomas, Leave given to bring in a bill entitled, An act authorising a lottery to build a Masonic Hall in Elkton Cecil county. Ordered, That Messrs. Thomas, Frey and Driver, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Taney delivers a petition from the commissioners of the town of Bruceville, in Frederick county, praying for a law vesting certain powers in the said commissioners relative to the execution of the trust reposed in them by the lot-holders; which was read and referred to Messrs. Potts, Taney and Howard.

The supplement to an act to provide for the erection of a new court-house in Hager's-Town, in Washington county, was read the second time, and the question put, Shall the said bill pass? Determined in the negative.

The bill for the sale of the real estate of Thomas C. Bowie, late of Prince-George's county, deceased, was read the second time, amended, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Bowles delivers a memorial from Christian Hager, of Washington county, praying the rejection of the bill, entitled, A further additional supplementary act to the act, entitled, An act for quieting possessions, annulling conveyances, and securing the estates of purchasers; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill for the relief of Henry W. Gibbs, and the supplement to the act, entitled, An act to prohibit the emigration of free negroes into this state, severally endorsed, "will not pass." A bill, entitled, An additional supplement to the act, entitled, An act to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road leading to Cumberland, and for the extension of the charters of the several banks in this state, and for other purposes, endorsed, passed by the senate, January 17, 1817; which was read. And the bill to provide for the appointment of an agent to settle the claims of this state with the government of the United States, endorsed, "on reconsideration the second amendment receded from." Accompanied by the following message:

BY THE SENATE, January 17, 1817.

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,

We have receded from the amendment made to the bill which originated in your house, entitled, An act to provide for the appointment of an agent to settle the claims of this state with the government of the United States, because the interest of the state requires that an agent should be appointed without delay. The senate, without admitting the construction of the constitution as implied in your message, wave for the present all observation on that question.

By order, R. HARWOOD, Clk.

Which was read and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Washington delivers a petition from William Layman, of Montgomery county, a revolutionary officer, praying compensation for his services; which was read and referred to Messrs. Washington, Watkins and Lanham.

Mr. Schnebly delivers a petition from sundry inhabitants of Hager's-Town, in Washington county, praying for a law to prevent swine, geese or goats, from running at large in said town or its additions, and for other purposes; which was read and referred to Messrs. Schnebly, Hager and Bowles.

Mr. Beard delivers a petition from sundry inhabitants of Cecil county, praying for a lottery to raise a sum of money for the purpose of establishing an academy in the village of Cecil Cross road; which was read and referred to Messrs. Beard, A. D. Mitchell and Frey.

Mr. Ridgely delivers a bill, entitled, A supplement to the act, entitled, An act to prevent trespasses in Allegany county; which was read.

Mr. Horrell delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorising the levy court of Calvert county to borrow a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned; which was read.

Mr. T. H. Dorsey delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorising the justices of the levy court of Anne-Arundel county to lease to Joseph I. Hopkins and Gerard R. Cowman part of a lot or parcel of land therein mentioned; which was read.