

The bill to authorise the abutment of a bridge on the Maryland shore, of the Potomac river at Harper's ferry and for other purposes, was read the second time, passed and sent to the senate.

The bill to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from Boon-borough to Hager's town and for the extension of the charters of the several banks in the city of Baltimore, and for other purposes, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr Bowles, the question was put that the words "and such other president and directors of any incorporated bank in the state who may accept of the terms and comply with the conditions herein after mentioned" be inserted after the words Hager's town Bank.

Determined in the negative.

The question was then put, Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative, and the bill returned to the senate.

On motion by Mr Bowles, leave given to bring in a bill entitled, A supplement to an act entitled, An act to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from the public square in Hager's town, to intersect the turnpike road leading from Gettysburgh, through Nicholson's Gap, at the Pennsylvania line; Ordered that Messrs Bowles, Gabby and Weaver, report the same.

Mr Dennis reports a bill entitled, An act to alter the time of holding the county court in Somerset county; which was read.

The bill to revive an act entitled, An act for the relief of insolvent debtors, was read the second time, and re-committed for amendment.

Mr Bruce reports a bill entitled, An additional supplement to an 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; which was read.

Mr Garner delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of Port Tobacco in Charles county, relative to the hydrant company, and also the memorial counter thereto, beg leave to report, That having examined the causes of complaint, as set forth in the petition, they can discover no just grounds therefor. That the hydrant company of Port Tobacco was incorporated by an act of the general assembly of 1818, for the purpose of supplying the town with water, to erect the necessary works, and to impose such taxes on the users of the water as in their judgment, might be necessary to keep the same in repair. That the money raised to erect the works was by subscription of all the property holders in said town, together with other public spirited individuals; that much expense was incurred therefor; that the petitioners are, with two or three exceptions, mere tenants, or temporary residents who gave nothing towards the erection of the works, can have no interest in keeping them in repair, and will consequently be dissatisfied with any tax the company may feel it their duty to lay for the aforesaid purposes. Your committee are also of opinion, that the law incorporating the hydrant company is just in its provisions, and better calculated to perpetuate the works, thereby promoting the health and convenience of the inhabitants than the suggestions of the petitioners; for should the house adopt their views, and their prayers be granted, that commissioners be elected by the inhabitants of the town, the majority of whom are tenants or temporary residents, men would always be elected who would have no interest in preserving the works longer than might be necessary for their temporary convenience, and who would consequently be opposed to any taxation, however required for that purpose; or should the plan recommended by the petitioners of levying a tax on assessable property be adopted, injustice would arise, as it frequently happens that the most valuable property remains for months, nay years uncopied. Neither can they concur with the idea of the petitioners, that republican principles are violated by the act of incorporation; for was it just, no road, canal or other incorporation analogous regulated, could be tolerated; nor can they see the justness of the allegations, that oppression has been practised under the existing law. By a supplement passed in 1819, on a similar complaint the right of appeal to the county court was granted. An appeal was made and dismissed, as appears by an accompanying record of the proceedings in the case. The only two cases, which upon first view would appear oppressive, lose that character on investigation. One of them was that of an individual, not indigent, who having repeatedly most peremptorily refused to pay the tax imposed, and defied the company to proceed to extremities, suffered his property to be sold for the tax and penalties, although the forbearance of the company had been conspicuous throughout. The other had been given repeated indulgence, as he professed a disposition to comply with the requisitions of the law, and it does not appear that in this case it has yet been enforced. From these considerations, and the opinion that any alteration in the principles of the law would be a breach of the faith under which it was asked and granted, and a sufficient guarantee being provided against oppression or an undue exercise of powers by the right of appeal to the county court, your committee are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted. But to do away all cause of just complaint, they beg leave to recommend a further supplement to the law, requiring the company to produce their books and records on complaint being made to the county court, of undue or improper application of the money collected by virtue of the powers granted them for that purpose, and a bill to that effect is herewith reported. All which is respectfully submitted,

By order,

JOSEPH IRELAND, Jr. Clerk.

And a bill entitled, A further supplement to the act entitled, An act to incorporate a company under the name of the hydrant company of Port Tobacco; which was read.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill authorising Margaret Lewis to remove certain negroes into the state of Maryland, endorsed, "will not pass." The supplement to an act entitled, An act to prevent the destruction of oysters in this state. The supplement to an act entitled, An act to confirm and make valid the acts and proceedings of the commissioners of the town of Princess Anne in Somerset county. The bill for the benefit of Elizabeth Dedman and others of Kent county