

*Ordered*, by this house, that the clerk, soon as he finishes one sheet of the proceedings, of the house, shall send the same by the door-keeper, as soon as convenient, to the printer, and so to deliver every sheet successively to the day's proceedings, to enable the printer to comply with the first order of the house on this subject; and it shall be the duty of the printer to have the same returned to the clerk by 9 o'clock the same evening, and that the said printer shall not retain in his possession the said sheets longer than he has use for them, but shall return them to the clerk.

By order,

S. S. HODGKIN, Clk.

On motion by Mr. Pratt, the following order was read:

*Ordered*, That the committee of claims be instructed to purchase for the use of this house a clock, to be placed in the most suitable situation in the room of the house of delegates, and that the cost of the same shall not exceed one hundred dollars.

On motion by Mr. Millard, the question was put, That the word 'dumb' be inserted before the word 'clock?' Determined in the negative.

The question was then put, That the house assent to the said order? Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Teakle, the following order was read:

Whereas the protracted sessions of our courts of justice, and the consequent charges of legal proceedings, in this era of unprecedented scarcity and distress, do grievously oppress the people of this state: And whereas, it is the bounden duty of the legislature to devise and apply all practicable means of public relief: And whereas, it is believed that the present system of jurisdiction may be so amended as to curtail the mass of litigation, and thereby tend to ameliorate the condition of the country:

It is therefore *Ordered*, That the select committee appointed to enquire into the administration of justice, be instructed to enquire into the expediency of giving the cognizance of assault and battery, and various offences of minor import, to the justices of the peace, with the right of appeal, and trial by jury; and also to enquire into the expediency of changing the mode of summoning jurors, and of adjusting their compensation, so that the grand jurors may be selected by the levy court, and that no person shall be compelled to serve more than once in five years, and that a pannel of twenty, for petit jurors, shall be summoned by the sheriff, for each and every day, on the day preceding, by order of the court, during its sittings for the trial of cases, and that their compensation shall not exceed one dollar per day for each petit juror: And whereas, from the number of presentments on the criminal dockets of the several counties, (most of which are amerced on submission in trifling fines, or appears not guilty on the traverse,) it is evident that such presentments are found on slight or insufficient testimony: And whereas this appearance of immorality and crime, is a reproach and disgrace to the good people of this state, and the consequent costs are exceedingly, onerous, and most oppressive upon the counties,

It is therefore *Ordered*, That the said select committee be instructed to enquire into the expediency of limiting the compensation of the attorney general and his deputies, to a fixed rate of salary, in lieu of fees, and also of regulating the costs in all cases of criminal prosecution, so that officious intermeddlers may not be paid for attending as witnesses, and that unworthy and vexatious suits may be avoided, and that witness may be compelled to prove their attendance during the term to which they are summoned, to prevent the improper practice of proving attendance in a variety of cases for the same time, and that not more than one set of costs shall be charged on any suit or suits for the same debt, and that no costs shall be demanded until the services for which they are charged shall have been performed.

And the question put, That the same have a second reading? Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Teackle, the following order was read:

Whereas, in consequence of series of adverse foreign trade, the circulating medium is reduced in quantity to a most destructive degree: And whereas the experience, and vast capitals of Europe operate to enhance the hostile preponderance: And whereas the salutary means of arresting the course of ruin—of eliciting the latent resources of the land—of stimulating industry, by the certainty of reward—and of opening avenues to the wealth, and happiness, and to national strength, can only be found in the regulations of commerce as delegated to congress—We the representatives of the people of Maryland, do highly approve of the 'augmentation of duties on certain foreign articles in favour of our own,' as recommended by the president of the United States.

And whilst we should rejoice in the apparently prosperous fiscal operations of the federal government, we have cause to deplore the lamentable fact, that the repletion of the treasury is woful evidence of the depletion of the people; as the revenue arises from the unnatural encouragement of foreign labour, to the palpable injury of our own citizens, and that for every dollar derived from consumption, many more are borne away to nourish the enterprise, and fill the coffers of rival nations—And whilst the intrinsic value of silver and gold for domestic uses, fits it to adjust the commercial balance, in the existing state of our foreign relations, it is most unsuitable for the convenience of the people of these states—And considering the redundant circulation, and consequent reduced value of money in Europe, that selfish principle which especially pervades all monetary matters, in rapid succession will expatriate the public securities, and become a cancer on the body of the nation—a corroding cancer, to gnaw the vitals, to exhaust the vigour, to repress and paralise the growing energies of the great republic; and being satisfied that in a protracted period of injurious commerce, a specie basis cannot be sustained, and fully believing that the creation of a national currency, wisely founded on the various estates, and justly representing substantial, and productive property, will not only avert a farther immersion into distress and ruin, but increase the general income by many millions—prove amply sufficient for the most important purposes of internal improvement, and tend to promote the prosperity of