

The clerk of the senate delivers the following communication:

IN COUNCIL, ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 9, 1823.

*Gentlemen*—We have the honor to transmit to the general assembly, letters from our senators in congress, acknowledging the receipt of the resolutions, lately adopted by the legislature on the subject of national defence and internal improvements,

And are, with the highest respect, your obedient servant,  
SAMUEL STEVENS, Junr.

*The honorable the President of the Senate, and  
The honorable the Speaker of the House of Delegates.*

WASHINGTON, 4th January, 1823.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your excellency's letter of the 30th Dec. past, accompanied by resolutions of the general assembly, approving the conduct of the general government of the United States, for the progressive increase of the navy, and the efforts made to extend and perfect a system of defence by fortifications, and expressing their wishes, that a system of internal improvements may be pursued.

It affords me sincere pleasure to receive from the general assembly, an expression of opinion so perfectly according with those I have always maintained. And through your excellency, I pray leave to assure that honorable body, that no exertion shall be wanting on my part to promote views so honorable and so highly useful to the nation.

I have the honor to be, your excellency's most obedient servant,  
S. SMITH.

*His Excellency, Samuel Stevens, Junr.*

WASHINGTON, January 3, 1823.

*To his Excellency, Samuel Stevens, Junr.*

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 30th ult. and the resolutions of the legislature of Maryland, approving the progressive increase of the navy, and an extension and perfection of a system of defence by fortifications.

It affords me much pleasure to receive from the legislature, an expression of opinion, so much in unison with my own; and I beg leave to assure them, through you, that my best exertions shall be used to further their views, and it affords me additional pleasure to inform them, that all parties here appear disposed to advance, so far as the resources of the nation will permit, both the objects recommended by them. I have the honor to be, with my sincere respect, your excellency's most obedient servant,  
EDW'D LLOYD.

Which were read.

On motion by Mr. Loockerman, Ordered, that the bill relative to the election of four delegates from each county, have a second reading on the 18th inst. Ordered, that the bill to extend to the citizens the same civil rights and religious privileges that are engaged under the constitution of the United States, have a second reading on the 14th inst. Ordered, that the bill relating to oaths to be taken by the members of the senate and house of delegates, have a second reading on the 16th inst. Ordered, that the bill relative to retailers of dry goods, have a second reading on the 18th inst.

Mr. Teackle reports a bill, entitled, An additional supplement to the act, entitled, An act for the relief of the poor in the counties of Dorchester and Somerset; which was twice read, passed and sent to the senate.

The house resumed the unfinished business of yesterday, relative to the divisional line between Anne-Arundel and Calvert counties. A division of the question was called for and put on striking out? Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Purviance, the question was put, that the words "ancient and reputed," be stricken out of the first section? Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Kilgour, the question was put, that the following be added to the said bill.

"*And be it enacted*, That if said commissioners, after having heard all the testimony which they are authorised to receive under this act, shall report to the next general assembly, whether any divisional line between Calvert and Anne-Arundel is now ascertained, and if any, where said line now runs?" Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Estep, his name was stricken out, and Virgil Maxey was inserted.

On motion by Mr. Estep, the words "for Prince George's county, Julius Forrest was stricken out.

On motion by Mr. Thomas, the words "Doct. William Howard of Baltimore county," was inserted in lieu thereof.

On motion by Mr. Estep, the preamble was reconsidered, and the words "and in particular, divers persons living near the borders of those counties have not contributed any thing towards the public expenses," were stricken out.

On motion by Mr. Estep, the word "will" was inserted between the words "not ascertained."

On motion by Mr. Dalrymple, the following was added to the bill:

"*And be it enacted*, That before the commissioners above named, proceed to act as such, they shall take the following oath or affirmation: I, A. B, do solemnly swear or affirm, as the case may be, that I will well and truly perform the duties of commissioners as prescribed by this act, without favor, affection, partiality or prejudice, to the best of my skill and judgment, so help me God.

"*And be it enacted*, That if any vacancy or vacancies shall occur in said commission, by the resignation, death or refusal to act, or any other cause, of one or more of the said commissioners, the governor and council are hereby authorised and required to fill such vacancy or vacancies so occurring, by appointing a commissioner or commissioners, as the case may be."