

the different departments of the institution, and with much system and regularity throughout the establishment.

There are, at this time, upwards of three hundred criminals engaged in the different mechanical arts, acquiring useful habits of industry, by which they may, when their term of service expires, get an honest support.

The committee learn from the inspectors, who accompanied them through the institution, that that part of the sentence of the courts directing solitary confinement, has never been carried into effect; and when your committee inquired why so important a part of the sentence had been neglected, they were informed, that they had followed the example of their predecessors in omitting this part of the punishment, which forms the most prominent feature in the sentence passed upon the criminal.

Your committee would call the attention of the house to this subject, as they believe it important to society that vice should be corrected. They believe it to be a dereliction of duty, on the part of the directors, to omit to inflict the punishment, which is most calculated to deter the vile from the commission of crimes, or a repetition of offences.

Your committee would recommend, that some steps be immediately taken to have the laws of the state carried into effect upon this subject, which is of such importance to society and the public at large.

Your committee view it as a matter of congratulation to society, that the number of females in confinement is so small; and they trust this is an additional evidence that the female offenders against the public peace diminish in number.

Your committee would suggest, that under the existing laws providing for the appointment of the keeper of the penitentiary, agent, and physician, some abuses have arisen, and may arise, to the great detriment of the institution, and the state at large; they therefore recommend the repeal of the law on this subject.

By order, J. COCKEY, Jr. Clk.

Which was read.

The bill authorising a lottery or lotteries to raise a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned, in Allegany county, was referred to the 1st June.

On motion by Mr. A. Lee, Ordered, that the bill to incorporate the Potomac canal company, have a second reading on Saturday next.

On motion by Mr. Millard, the following order was read and dissented from:

*Ordered*, That the treasurer of the western shore furnish this house with such information as he may be able to give, of the cost of the penitentiary, the annual pay the officers receive, and the time of the erection of said institution.

The supplement to an act entitled, An act to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from Boonsborough to Hager's town, and for the extension of the charters of the several banks in this state, and for other purposes, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1823.

The house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

On motion by Mr. Millard, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to regulate divorces; Ordered that Messrs. Millard, Loockerman and Linthicum report the same.

Mr. Purviance presents a petition from Charity F. Barriere, praying for a divorce; read and referred to the committee on divorces.

The bill for the relief of William Usselton and Simon Beck, of Kent county, soldiers of the revolution; was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

The order appointing a committee relative to printing the laws from stereotype plates; was read the second time and assented to.

On motion by Mr. Cannell, the bill authorising the trustees of the Lancaster and grammar school, and the trustees of St. Peters church, at Liberty Town, in Frederick county, to sell lottery tickets to a certain amount, for the purpose of raising money to be applied to the finishing of said academy and church; was referred to the first of June next.

On motion by Mr. Ireland, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act for the support of Martha Conner, the idiot daughter of James Conner, of Kent county; Ordered, that Messrs. Ireland, Massey and Hodges, report the same.

On motion by Mr. Teackle; Ordered, that the bill to incorporate a society for the promotion of useful arts have a second reading on the 10th February.

On motion by Mr. Steele, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, to incorporate a company to make a wharf at the town of Cambridge, in Dorchester county; Ordered, that Messrs. Steele, Hooper and Byus, report the same.

The bill for the relief of John W. Berry, of the city of Baltimore; the bill authorising John Cole, of Frederick county, to remove his negro slave James from the state of Virginia into this state; and bill to release the right of the state, to a part of a tract of land therein mentioned; were read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Steele presents petitions from sundry inhabitants of Dorchester county, praying that the power to open and lay out roads, may be vested in the levy court of said county; and a petition from James Cropper, praying for a law to confirm his name; which were read and referred to Messrs. Steele, Willis and Byus.

The resolution in favor of the examiner general was read the second time.

Mr. Wootton moved to reconsider it, for the purpose of reducing the salary to \$500? Determined in the negative.