

tomac river at Harper's ferry, and for other purposes, were read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill for the benefit of James Reeside, of Allegany county; endorsed, "will not pass." The bill to provide for the completion of certain records of the orphans court of Caroline county; the bill authorising John Cole, of Frederick county, to remove his negro slave James, from the state of Virginia to this state, and the bill respecting the last will and testament of Daniel of Saint Thomas Jenifer, endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed.

On motion by Mr. Slemaker, Leave given to bring in a bill entitled, An act authorising the levy courts of the different counties to fill all vacancies occasioned by the death, resignation, or removal of constables. Ordered, that Messrs. Slemaker, Riley and Franklin, report the same.

On the second reading of the bill to regulate the fees of justices of the peace of the different counties in this state. Mr. Stansbury moved, and the question was put, that the same be referred to the next general assembly? The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follows:

AFFIRMATIVE—Messrs. Speaker, Millard, G. Leigh, Ireland, Massey, Linthicum, Howard, Weems, Carner, Stansbury, Orrick, Johnson, Worthington, Loockerman, Jones, Dennis, Gerry, Wootton, Hughes, Meconiken, Norris, Chauncey, Whiteford, Boon, Drury, Keller, Galloway, Williams, Greenwell, Tomlinson.—30.

NEGATIVE—Messrs. Stone, Maddox, Hodges, Dalrymple, Smith, Stonestreet, Edelen, Rogerson, Martin, Byus, Willis, Hooper, Sheredine, Cosden, Culver, Roberts, Wright, Slemaker, Riley, Fisher, Allen, Saulsbury, Douglass, Purviance.—24. Resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Millard delivers the following report:

The committee appointed upon the subject of public buildings, and the condition of the records in the land office, beg leave to report *in part*—That they have attended to some of the duties assigned to them, and have ascertained the facts stated in the representations of the clerk of the land office to be correct. Those records, which are, for want of room in said office, necessarily deposited in the lower cases thereof, are subject to injury, which in a short time will entirely destroy those valuable evidences of property. It becomes therefore, indispensable to provide some situation better adapted for their preservation.

The committee have further ascertained, that there is a department on one side of the octagon of the state house, that might be appropriated, with great advantage, to the purposes of a committee room, for the use of the house of delegates, the urgent occasion for which must be obvious to every member. And the same apartment may, without much expense, be appropriated to the safe keeping of the public records above alluded to. The committee therefore beg leave to propose the following resolution:

Resolved, That the governor and council be and they are hereby authorised, to open an interior door to the room adjoining the octagon or general court room of the state house; and to have the same fitted up for the use of the legislature, and that the cases therein be appropriated under the direction of the executive, for the safe keeping of the public records.

Which was read.

By order,

J. COCKEY, Junr. Clk.

The bill for the relief of the orphan children of William Vance, of the city of Baltimore, was read the second time, passed and sent to the senate.

Mr. Estep reports a bill, entitled, An act to protect the fisheries in the Patuxent river.

Mr. Massey reports a bill, entitled, An act to alter and amend the constitution as to the mode of appointing clerks of the county courts and register of wills.

And Mr. Purviance reports a bill, entitled, An act incorporating into one, the several acts relating to constables fees; which were read.

On motion by Mr. Orrick, Ordered, That the supplement to an act, entitled, An act to regulate and discipline the militia of this state, have a second reading on Tuesday next.

On motion by Mr. Massey, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act for the support of Sarah Melvony, widow of William, of Kent county, Ordered, That Messrs. Massey, Ireland and Hodges, report the same.

The further additional supplement to An act, relating to the public roads in the several counties therein mentioned; the bill relating to a landing place on the north west branch of Naticoke river.

And the bill for the benefit of William H. Murray, and Maria his wife; were read the second time, passed and sent to the senate.

On motion by Mr. Edelen, the first amendment proposed to the bill to authorise the county clerks of this state to judge and approve of security in cases therein mentioned, was reconsidered and rejected.

On motion by Mr. Edelen, the following message was read, assented to, and with the bill, sent to the senate.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES; February 7th, 1823.

Gentlemen of the Senate.—We return you the bill, entitled, An act to authorise the county clerks of this state to judge and approve of security, in cases therein mentioned, with the amendments thereto proposed by your honourable body, and have disagreed to the first amendment proposed, as the adoption of it would make the meaning of the clause unintelligible, and hope upon reconsideration of the same, you will recede therefrom.

By order,

J. BREWER, Clk.

Mr. Ireland reports a bill, entitled, An act for the support of Sarah Taggart, of Kent county; which was twice read by special order, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. John P. Kennedy presents a petition from sundry inhabitants of the city of Baltimore,