

tion, and inserting the following: "*Provided always*, that nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as to grant to the company, established by this act, the exclusive right to the waters of the river Potomac; and that no company hereafter to be established by this state, or the state of Virginia, shall draw from the said river or canal, so much of the water thereof as shall render useless, or in any manner impair the canal or works to be constructed by the company hereby created, and the said states do hereby expressly reserve to themselves the right of intersecting or joining the said canal, any time hereafter, by any cross canal or canals, which they may think proper to authorise, the said right to be exercised in such manner as to do no injury to the canal or works as aforesaid.

Mr. Norris reports a bill, entitled, An act relating to the inspection of salted fish in the city of Baltimore; which was read.

Mr. Loockerman delivers the following report:

The committee of grievances and courts of justices, to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of Charles county, beg leave to report, that a bill, embracing the objects contemplated by the said petition, has already been presented to the consideration of this house, and your committee therefore deem it unnecessary to extend their investigation further on this subject, and recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

By order,

J. COCKEY, Junr. Clk.

Which was twice read and concurred with.

Also the following report:

The committee of grievances and courts of justice, to whom was referred the petition of the honorable Jeremiah Townly Chase, chief judge of the third judicial district, have had the same under serious consideration, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the treasurer of the western shore be, and he is hereby authorised and directed, to pay to Jeremiah Townly Chase, Esq. or order, out of any unappropriated money in the treasury, the sum of three thousand dollars, as a compensation for his services under the act concerning the chancery court, which compensation was ascertained by a jury.

By order,

J. COCKEY, Jr. Clk.

Which was read, and ordered to have a second reading on Saturday next.

On motion by Mr. Kilgour, Ordered, that the bill organizing and establishing district equity courts, and new modelling the manner of the appointment of the judges of the orphans' court have a second reading on Friday next.

Mr. Hughes reports a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of sundry poor persons of Prince George's and Anne-Arundel counties, and the city of Annapolis; which was read.

On motion by Mr. Worthington, the following message was read, assented to, and with the bill therein mentioned, sent to the senate:

BY THE HOUSE DELEGATES, February 12, 1823.

Gentlemen of the Senate—We return you the bill, entitled, A further supplement to the act to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road to lead from the cross roads near Richard Caton's lime kiln in Baltimore county, nearly in the direction of Jones' Falls, to the city of Baltimore, with the first amendment, and respectfully ask a reconsideration of the same. If the amendment proposed is adhered to, the objects of the petitioners will be defeated. We would suggest that the bill as it now stands, does not impair or affect the claim of any individual against said company. We therefore hope that you will recede from the same.

By order,

J. BREWER, Clk.

The supplement to the act, entitled, An act to enable Hezekiah Niles, of the city of Baltimore, to dispose of certain books in the manner therein mentioned, was read the second time passed, and sent to the senate.

On motion by Mr. John P. Kennedy, the house reconsidered the bill to incorporate the Jefferson society, in the city of Baltimore; on the second reading of the same, Mr. Tomlinson moved that it be referred to the next general assembly? Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Teackle, it was so amended as to make the members answerable in their individual characters for the debts of the company, and the question put, shall the bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Rogerson reports a bill, entitled, An act authorising the orphans' court of Charles county to decree the sale of certain property; and Mr. Thomas reports a bill, entitled, An act incorporating a company to introduce a copious supply of water into the town of Emmitsburgh in Frederick county; which were read.

Mr. T. Kennedy delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the bill from the senate, entitled, An act to alter and change all such parts of the constitution and form of government as relate to the oaths to be taken by the members of the senate and house of delegates, have had the same under their consideration, and are of opinion that it ought to pass with the following amendments: at the end of the first section insert, "And that electors of the senate, and all executive and judicial officers, before they act as such, and all persons elected or appointed to any office of profit or trust, civil or military, before entering upon the duties thereof, shall respectively take and subscribe the following oath, or affirmation, to wit: I, A. B. do swear, (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the state of Maryland, and that I will support the constitution and laws thereof, and that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of _____ according to the constitution and laws of this state."

Second section, at the end of the third line after the word "delegates" insert, "And by all per-