

and return you the said bill, and hope upon a reconsideration your honourable body will pass the same, by altering your amendment to five weeks, instead of eight, which will be the time heretofore directed by laws that have been passed on the same subject.

By order,

J. BREWER, Clk.

The bill to prohibit more than one writ issuing on any joint bond or note was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Steele, the question was put, That the same be referred to the next general assembly? The yeas and nays being required appeared as follow:

**AFFIRMATIVE**.—Messrs. Speaker, Massey, Darvimpie, Smith, Lookerman, Lloyd, Jones, Dennis, Steele, Cosden, Carroll, Meconiken, Wright, Pratt, Slemaker, Riley, Franklin, Farquhar, Fisher, Boon, Douglass, J. P. Kennedy, Purviance, T. Kennedy, Drury, Keller, Galloway, Williams, A. Lee—29.

**NEGATIVE**.—Messrs. Millard, G. Leigh, Stone, Maddox, Ireland, Hedges, Rogers, Garner, Stansbury, Orrick, Worthington, Martin, Teackle, Eys, Willis, Sackett, Tucker, Gerry, Hughes, Roberts, H. Kemp, Norris, Chameey, Allen, Whitcomb, Davan, Hoffman, Pomara, Pominson.—29. Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Carroll, the question was put, That the same be considered as rejected? Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Allen, the question was put, That the bill be withdrawn from the hands of the clerk? Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion by Mr. Semmes the question was put, That the same be recommitted to a special committee. Resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Messrs. Allen, Semmes, Norris, Gerry and Edelen, be the said committee.

On motion by Mr. Archibald Lee, the following message was read, assented to, and sent to the senate:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, February 19, 1823.

*Gentlemen of the Senate*—We return you the bill, entitled, "An act appointing commissioners to extend Washington-street in Rockville, and for other purposes," and agree to strike out the proviso alluded to in your message, upon condition that you will introduce the following proviso in its stead:

"Provided, That said street shall not be extended under this act, unless the proprietor or proprietors of the land over which it will pass, consents, or consent to receive no compensation for such land."

And also strike out, in the same section, the words "said road," and insert "that part of said street extended under this act."

By order,

J. BREWER, Clk.

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

*Ordered*, That the executive employ some person to sod the grave of the honourable William Craig, jun. and purchase a head and foot stone for the same, and have engraved on it the time of his birth, the age of the deceased, and the time of his death, as soon as the same can be ascertained.

The speaker laid before the House a communication from the state agent for the western shore, enclosing the following report:

*To the honourable the Legislature of Maryland.*

Thomas Kennedy, late State Agent, respectfully submits this, his second report.—The statement marked A. shews a list of balances due from county clerks and sheriffs on the western shore, which are considered good and well secured, and which will come into the treasury at no distant date.

The statement B. shews a list of debts for confiscated property, stock, and money lent, a part of which may be recovered, but when or how much, cannot now be ascertained; the whole therefor may be considered as desperate or doubtful.

The statement No. 1 shews a list of old balances due chiefly from 1781 to 1786, on bonds for confiscated property—considered invalid.

The statement No. 2, shews a list of bonds for the emissions of 1769 and 1773, and other debts due from sundries, considered invalid.

The statement No. 3, shews a list of balances due from the sheriffs, &c. of the several counties on the western shore, from the year 1772 to 1806, which are also considered invalid.

The debts due on the statement marked A, are all in a fair train for speedy settlement. The sum due on the western shore for old debts from county clerks and sheriffs, which are considered valid, is now reduced to a small sum, say from twelve to fifteen thousand dollars; nor is there a large balance for the revenue becoming due and payable in the year 1822. And it gives me much pleasure to state, that in general, all the public debtors on the western shore, have shewed every desire to have their accounts speedily settled; and so far as I can judge, I think Maryland at present has a very valuable set of officers, both county clerks and sheriffs.

The debts due on the list B may partly be recovered—the principal debt is that due by the president and directors of the Potomac Company for thirty thousand dollars, loaned to them by the state. I was at some pains to obtain a settlement of this claim, but could not succeed.

The annexed paper marked C, is an extract from the proceedings of the Potomac Company, with a resolution addressed to the state agent on the subject. A suit had been ordered against the company, and it rests with the legislature to say whether it shall go on or be discontinued.

The remarks annexed to each of the debts on the lists Nos. 1, 2 and 3, are those made by the treasurer when the accounts were put into my hands. Two of the debts however, on the list No. 3, amounting with interest to nearly two thousand dollars, can probably be recovered. The first is against Thomas Harwood, of Benj. collector of Prince-George's