

Mr. Fisher reports a bill, entitled, An act for the benefit of James Burns, of Frederick.— Which was read the first and second time by special order, passed and sent to the senate.
The clerk of the council delivers a communication from his Excellency, the Governor. Which was read.

On motion by Mr. Johnson, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to alter and amend the laws regulating the Militia of the state. Ordered, that Messrs. Johnson, Peter, Fenwick, Whiteford, Pitt, Hopper, and Lloyd, report the same.

On motion by Mr. Millard the following order was read, Ordered, that the committee of claims be requested to contract upon the cheapest terms for the printing of the daily proceedings of the legislature for the use of each member, and that the same be laid upon each member's desk every morning at 9 o'clock.

Mr. Wootton proposed the following as a substitute, Ordered, that the committee of claims be requested to contract for the printing of the journals of the house, provided the same can be done for a sum not exceeding \$200.

Mr. Millard moved to strike out \$200 and insert \$300. Determined in the negative.

The question was then put, that the house assent to the order proposed by Mr. Millard? Determined in the negative.

The house proceeded to ballot for a Register of Wills for Dorchester county; the ballots being deposited in the ballot box, the gentlemen named to strike retired to the conference room, and after some time returned and reported that William W. Eccleston was elected.

Whereupon, Resolved, that William W. Eccleston be, and he is hereby recommended to the Governor to be commissioned as Register of Wills for Dorchester county.

The clerk of the senate delivers a return from the clerk of the Harford county, relative to the attendance of judges. Which was read and referred to the committee of grievances and courts of justice.—And a report from the president of Fredericktown Academy. Which was read.

The order proposing a committee to bring in a bill for the valuation of real and personal property in this state. Was read the second time and assented to. The Speaker appointed Messrs. Henry, J. T. H. Worthington, Edelen, Hopper and Riley, to be the said committee.

On motion by Mr. Millard, Ordered that a committee of four be appointed by the speaker to report on all petitions for divorces during the present session. The speaker appointed Messrs. Millard, Pitt, J. T. H. Worthington, Semmes and Lloyd.

On motion by Mr. Millard the following order was read, Ordered, that the committee on divorces report on no petition until they shall be satisfied that the parties concerned have had sufficient time to file any vouchers with said committee, in order to counteract the allegations of the party applying for such divorce, and that in future no favorable report be made by the said committee on such applications, unless the party applying shall have given public notice for the space of three weeks in some one or more newspaper published in this state nearest to the residence of the parties so applying of their intention to make such application to the legislature.—And the question put that the house assent to the same. Determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr. Dalrymple, Leave given to bring in a bill to authorise Isaac Rawlings, of the state of Tennessee, to remove into this state certain negro slaves. Ordered, that Messrs. Dalrymple, Chesley and Weems, report the same.

Mr. Edelen presents a petition from Nancy Cox, of Charles county, praying for support.— Read and referred to Messrs. Edelen, Millar and Garner.

On motion by Mr. Chesley, Ordered, that a committee be appointed to ascertain and report what laws expire with the present session. Ordered, that Messrs. Chesley, Edelen and Dalrymple, be said committee.

On motion by Mr. Millard, Leave given to bring in a bill to settle and ascertain the salary of the members of the Council for the ensuing year. Ordered, that Messrs. Millard, Chesley and Sewell, report the same.

Mr. Merrick presents a petition from Catharine Fridley, of Washington county, praying a divorce. Read and referred to the committee appointed on similar subjects.

Mr. Norris reports a bill entitled, An act to appoint Trustees for the Little Fall's Meeting House and Forrest Meeting House in Harford county. Which was read.

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

FRIDAY, December 5, 1823.

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

George Jones of Robt. Esq. delegate returned for Somerset county, and John Boon, Esq. a delegate returned for Caroline county, appeared, qualified and took their seats.

The speaker laid before the house a return from the clerk of Anne-Arundel county, relative to the attendance of judges; which was read.

On motion by Mr. Loockerman, ordered, that all returns of a similar nature, be referred to the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justices.

Mr. Henderson presents a petition from William Burk of Cecil county, praying for support; read and referred to Messrs. Henderson, Gerry and Bryan.

On motion by Mr. Sewell, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, an act to empower the Levy Court of Harford county to appoint their constables by election districts in the place of appointing them by hundreds; ordered, that Messrs. Sewell, Whiteford and Steel report the same.

On motion by Mr. Kemp, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, an act authorising the Ger-