

Mr. Hughes presents a petition from Isaac Holland, praying for a pension; read and referred to the committee appointed on pensions and revolutionary claims.

Mr. W. G. D. Worthington presents a petition from Margaret Hambleton, widow of captain John Hambleton; which was read and referred to the committee on pensions and revolutionary claims.

Mr. Bryan presents a petition from sundry inhabitants of the first election district of Cecil county, counter to a petition praying for a change of the place for holding the election; read and referred to the committee appointed on the petition to which it is counter.

The house according to the order of the day, proceeded to the second reading of the bill to increase the number of delegates from the city of Baltimore to four, and to alter and abolish all such parts of the constitution and form of government, as are repugnant thereto; and the question put, shall the said bill pass.

The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow—

Affirmative—Messrs. Speaker, Linthecum, Chesley, Dalrymple, J. T. H. Worthington, Johnson, Ely, Henderson, Gerry, Bryan, Semmes, E. B. Duvall, Carroll, Fisher, Whiteford, Sewell, Norris, Steel, Boon, W. Stewart, W. G. D. Worthington, Gabby—22.

Negative—Messrs. Leigh, Gough, Millard, Fenwick, Ireland, Hodges, C. R. Stuart, Iglehart, Edelen, Rogerson, Looekerman, Lloyd, Martin, Jones, Dennis, Bratton, Dashiell, Pitt, Hutson, Hughes, Hopper, Meconiker, Moffitt, Nicholson, Slemaker, Franklin, Parnell, Riley, Turbutt, Kemp, Crumwell, Elijah Barwick, Douglass, Edward Barwick, Kershner, Bowles, Merrick, Peter, Kilgour, Williams, W. Duvall, Bruce, McMahon—13.

Determined in the negative.

Mr. Edelen reports a bill, entitled, an act to confirm and make valid, the acts and proceedings of Walter M. Millar, as a justice of the peace for Charles county; which was read.

The clerk of the senate delivers a report from the clerk of Somerset county, relative to the attendance of judges. Also, a letter from his excellency the governor, enclosing a communication made to the executive, by the directors of the penitentiary; which was read. Also, the bill to repeal an act, entitled, an act to repeal an act, entitled, a supplement to an act for the better protection of slave holders in the several counties therein mentioned, so far as the same relates to Dorchester county, endorsed, "will pass with the proposed amendment;" which amendment was read; and the bill relating to the appointment of constables in Harford county, endorsed, "will pass with the proposed amendments;" which amendments were read, assented to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Kemp reports a bill, entitled, an act authorising and requiring the Levy Court, of Frederick county, to provide a suitable room for holding the orphans' court, of said county, and safe keeping of the records and papers, of said court.

Mr. E. B. Duvall reports a bill, entitled, an act to alter and amend such parts of the constitution, as relate to the election of the senate and council of the governor of this state; and Mr. Gough reports a bill, entitled, an act for the benefit of Margaret Tippet, of Saint Mary's county; which were read.

Mr. Merrick reports a bill entitled, an act for the relief of Catharine Wager and James B. Wager; which was twice read by special order and passed.

Mr. Kilgour reports a bill entitled, a supplement to the act entitled, a supplement to the act entitled, an act relative to negroes and slaves; which was read and ordered to have a second reading on Friday next.

On motion by Mr. Millard, the following message was read:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, December 15, 1823.

Gentlemen of the Senate—Experience has taught us to believe that it will be impracticable to keep a quorum during the Christmas holidays, and as that period ought to be devoted to the observance of religious duties and social intercourse, we therefore propose to adjourn on

until

On motion by Mr. Millard, the following message was read and assented to:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, Dec. 15, 1823.

Gentlemen of the Senate—Just before the close of the last session of the legislature, leave was given and a committee appointed to report a bill upon the subject of the penitentiary, but owing to the lateness of the period at which the subject was taken up, the committee thought proper to recommend a postponement till the present session, as it was thought to be of the greatest importance to the public. The enormous sum of \$236,453 95½ cents, has been expended up to 1821 in establishing and aiding the penitentiary, and about \$20,000 since. We therefore propose a committee of conference with your honorable body to take such steps in re-organising that institution as they may deem most essential and proper, and have appointed Messrs. Millard, J. T. H. Worthington, Steel, Dennis, Hopper McMahon and Linthecum, a committee on the part of this house to confer with a committee to be named by you to take the subject into consideration.

By order,

J. BREWER, Clk.

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

TUESDAY, December 16, 1823.

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

The bill for the relief of Catharine Wager and James B. Wager, and the message proposing a committee of conference relative to the Penitentiary, were sent to the senate.