

John Bowie's farm. The bill for the benefit of John Kennard and Mary his wife. The additional supplement to the act to incorporate a company to build a wharf at the town of Cambridge in Dorchester county. The additional supplement to an act entitled, an act to make a turnpike road from the market space in Hagerstown, of Conococheague; and the bill to remove certain obstructions in Deer creek, in order that fish may ascend said creek, severally endorsed will pass, ordered to be engrossed. The bill to repeal the act of assembly therein mentioned; endorsed will pass with the proposed amendment, which amendment was read, assented to and the bill ordered to be engrossed; also a bill entitled an act, relating to executions, endorsed will pass, which was read; also the resolutions in favor of Sarah Brewer and Silas Griffith; severally endorsed, assented to; and the resolution in favor of Henry Schroeder, endorsed, assented to with the proposed amendment, which amendment was read and assented to.

Mr. W. G. D. Worthington reports a bill entitled an act, to incorporate the Fell's Point Wesleyan Sabbath School.

Mr. Henderson reports a bill entitled an act, authorising certain persons therein mentioned to purchase a lot of ground for the purpose of erecting thereon a Methodist church, in Charles town, Cecil county.

Mr. Millard delivers the following report:

The committee appointed to report upon all petitions for special acts of insolvency, have had the petition and counter petition of John Crow, of Talbot county, under their consideration, and as it appears that there is no peculiar grievance under which the petitioner labors, and inasmuch as the laws of Maryland are amply sufficient to meet his case, they therefore recommend, that the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

Which was concurred with:

The amendment to the bill for the benefit of George W. Neale, was read the second time, assented to and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Semmes obtained leave to bring in a bill for the relief of Jacob Bassford; ordered that Messrs. Semmes, E. B. Duvall and Wootton, report the same.

On motion by Mr. Norris, ordered that the bill taxing pleasure carriages, have a second reading on Thursday next.

On motion by Mr. Edelin, ordered that the bill changing the religious test, have a second reading on Tuesday next.

Mr. McMahon delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Cumberland, in Allegany county, praying that the act of 1815, chapter 136, providing for the appointment of commissioners for the regulation and improvement of the said town, and incorporating the same, and the act supplementary thereto, passed at December session 1818, may be repealed, and also the petition of other citizens of the said town, counter to the first mentioned petition, beg leave to report—That they have had the same under consideration, and that they deem it inexpedient and improper under existing circumstances to yield to the prayer of the first mentioned petitioners. Your committee would cheerfully recognise the propriety and republicanism of the doctrine. That municipal governments are, as those of a more widely extended operation, to be regarded as existing only for the benefit of those living under them, as based upon the express or implied assent of a majority of those subject to such governments, and as so completely under the control of such majority, that they should at their pleasure be permitted to alter, amend, reorganise, or cast off such subordinate government.

But whilst your committee acknowledge the justice of such doctrine, they do not see in the case presented to them by the petition above referred to, one which calls for its application. They do not see on the face of the petition praying for the repeal of the acts incorporating the town of Cumberland, such a clear, distinct and unequivocal expression of the wishes of a majority of those resident within the corporate limits of such town; as would justify them in recommending the utter destruction of municipal powers, originally deemed conducive to the better regulation and improvement of the said town, and which if properly modified and guarded, cannot fail to be productive of beneficial results. When your committee regard the present condition of the town of Cumberland, when they witness the degree to which it has already increased, and when they see in its peculiarly favorable location, the promise of a yet more abundant increase, they conceive that nothing but the imperative undisguised requests of those whose will alone is to be consulted on this occasion, could sanction a recommendation on their part of the abrogation of powers, which if properly exercised, they cannot but deem promotive of the interests of the citizens of Cumberland, as confined within its present limits, and having its present population, and which they cannot but regard as essentially necessary for its internal regulation, in that day of better things, when with a daily swelling population, and with daily extending limits, she promises to be the key stone of eastern and western commerce.

Your committee would further remark, that both in the reasons assigned for the repeal of the above mentioned acts, and in the names appended to the petition and counter petition, they see strong indications of misrepresentation as practised in regard to many of the petitioners. They have not been able to discover upon the face of the petition a single reason which calls for the utter destruction of the corporate powers, which evidences more than an improper exercise of those powers by those in whom they have been vested, or which requires, to say the utmost, ought else than a restriction or abridgement of those powers. And when in addition to this they discover that the names of some of those who appear to have been the framers of the petition, and the most prominent promoters of its success, are found willing

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