

divide themselves, and are seen equally as prominent personages on the counter petition; they cannot but augur some mistake in the transaction from its doubled faced character. Your committee therefore beg leave respectfully to recommend, that the petitioners and counter petitioners have leave, to withdraw their respective petitions.

By order,

ISAAC HINES, Clk.

Which was read.

Mr. W. G. D. Worthington delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the memorials of Samuel R. Smith, and the devisees of James Calhoun, Senr. all of the city of Baltimore, respectfully report:

That they have had the same under serious consideration. The memorialists alledge that the faith of the state has heretofore been pledged to them, on their building certain warehouses, for the inspection of tobacco in the city of Baltimore, and that they have vested rights therein, of which they ought not to be deprived, without a full indemnification.

Your committee regard the subject of much importance, both to the state and the individuals concerned, and being unwilling to prejudice the rights of the parties, and a majority of said committee not being able to come to a satisfactory decision on the merits of said memorials. They beg leave to submit the same to the house, and be discharged from any further consideration of the subject.

By order,

ISAAC HINES, Clerk.

Which was read.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill to ascertain the divisional line between Calvert and Anne Arundel counties; after some time spent in debating the same, the house adjourns until 5 o'clock, P. M.

5 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The house met. Alexander Skinner, Esq. a delegate returned for Calvert county, appeared, qualified and took his seat.

Mr. Loockerman delivers the following report:

The committee of grievances and courts of justice, to whom was referred the petition of Martha B. Harvey, have had the same under consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioner could not be granted, without furnishing an example, which as it would be an invasion of the system of chancery law already established, might lead to similar measures which this legislature would deem it inexpedient to adopt.

By order,

JOHN DOUGLAS, Clk.

Which was concurred with.

Mr. Merrick presents petitions from Mary McDaniel and Christina Kipes, praying to be divorced; referred to the committee on divorces.

Mr. Carroll presents a petition from Ann Mead, praying for the support of John Norris, an orphan boy; referred to Messrs. Carroll, Hughes and Iglehart.

Mr. Loockerman delivers the following report:

The committee of grievances and courts of justice who have been requested by an order of the house of delegates to report a bill to secure the attendance of the judges of the county courts in order that justice may be duly administered, beg leave to report, that although they are deeply impressed with the importance of this subject and believe that there is none which more justly merits at all times the serious enquiry of the legislature, yet your committee cannot deem any legislative provision can be more efficient or any obligations more strong, than those already imposed by existing laws. The acts of our state which require a certificate of the attendance of the judges to be made to the legislature by the clerks of the county courts must operate as the most effectual legislative provision which can be adopted, provided such use be made of them as was intended. They present a distinct view of the assiduity and attention of the judges of the several courts of this state and of their negligence and omission if such censure can justly attach to them. And from an inspection of those certificates brought together in the form of a report a just ground of enquiry is furnished to the legislature, into the causes of the non attendance of such as may appear to have been delinquent. In addition to the provisions above referred to, your committee can conceive no obligation more powerful than those imposed by the oath of office of each judge and that solicitude which this must inspire faithfully and honestly to discharge their high and responsible duties. Your committee would further suggest that the mode pointed out by the constitution is open to any member of the legislature who may deem it his duty to arraign the negligence or other misconduct of any judge. And to your committee no information has been officially furnished which would authorise them to enquire into the conduct of any such officer.

By order,

JOHN DOUGLAS, Clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Semmes reports a bill entitled, an act to ascertain the salaries of certain officers of government.

Mr. Millard reports a bill for the relief of Thomas Philips.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill incorporating the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, endorsed, "will pass with the proposed amendment," which amendment was read.

Also the bill to confirm an act entitled, an act to alter, change and repeal such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state, as relate to the division of Saint Mary's county into four election districts, passed at December session 1822, endorsed, "will pass;" ordered to be engrossed, Also the resolution in favor of Philemon B. Hopper, endorsed, "assented to," and a communication from the executive, enclosing a letter from James Boyle, Esq. Mayor of Annapolis, suggesting the propriety of purchasing a suction engine, to enable the citizens to protect public property and records from being destroyed by fire; referred to Messrs