

Saturday, February 18, 1826.

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

Mr. Beckett presents petitions from Elizabeth Charlton, Basil Bowen, and Friscilla Bowen, of Calvert county, for support; referred to the standing committee.

Mr. Douglas presents a petition from Wm. Vickers, and Rebecca his wife, of Dorchester county, praying for a divorce; referred to the standing committee.

Mr. Hall presents a petition from sundry inhabitants of Harford and Cecil counties, praying that an act may pass incorporating a company to build a draw bridge across the Susquehanna, at Havre-de-Grace, and to make a turnpike road from thence to Elkton; referred to the committee on the same subject.

On motion by Mr. Stevens, Ordered, That the bills and resolutions, introduced by the committee of ways and means, shall have a preference to others, and may be called up without regard to the order prescribed for other business.

On motion by Mr. Cockey, Ordered, That the treasurer of the western shore be and he is hereby required, to furnish this house with the reports of the several banks of this state, which may have been received by him.

Mr. Hall presents a petition from sundry citizens of Harford county, praying that the divisional line between Harford and Cecil counties may be established; referred to Messrs. Hall, Williams, Sewell, Gilpin and Harlan.

Mr. Perry presents a petition from Lawrence Jameson, and others, representatives of Lawrence O'Neale, for relief; referred to Messrs. Perry, Reid and Merrick.

Mr. Kennedy obtained leave to bring in a bill, entitled, An act for the more effectual punishment of kidnappers of people of colour. Ordered, That Messrs. Kennedy, B. I. Jones and Sappington, report the same.

The bill to alter and amend the constitution of this state, so that the governor may be elected by the people, and to abolish the council, was sent to the senate.

On motion by Mr. Maxcy, the following resolution was read:

By the House of Delegates, Feb. 17th, 1826

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the treasurer of the western shore, shall, as soon as may be after the first day of December in each year, invest, in such productive stocks as he may think most safe and expedient, all surplus money, unappropriated, which shall that day be in the treasury, over and above forty thousand dollars, until such time as the general assembly shall direct the same surpluses to be used for the payment of interest on loans for the purpose of internal improvement, which stocks thus purchased by the treasurer, shall be and remain forever as a fund, the proceeds of which shall be distributed, as the general assembly may hereafter direct, for the support of common or primary schools.

Mr. Hughes obtained leave to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to au-