

the president of the United States has to issue his proclamation giving notice thereof; your committee have therefore reported a bill, which provides that the next election for representatives in congress shall be held on the first Monday in April in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, and on the same day every second year thereafter, and which bill they consider ought to pass. All which is respectfully submitted.

By order,

Isaac Hines, Clk.

Which was read.

Also a bill, entitled, An act to alter the time of electing representatives of this state in the congress of the United States.

On motion by Mr. Hughes, the following message was read, assented to, and with the bill therein mentioned, sent to the senate.

By the House of Delegates, Feb. 18, 1826]

Gentlemen of the Senate,

We return you the bill, entitled, An act to authorise William Plummer, of Montgomery county, to manumit the negro therein named. We think this a case entitled to legislative aid; the negro man, whose manumission is provided for by this bill, is represented as being honest and industrious, and having acted as a freeman some years, it is represented to us, and believed to be true, that he has collected together something considerable for his future support, and the object in view, in authorising his manumission, is to enable him to make legal contracts, and to invest in some way the rewards of his industry with safety. We apprehend that the object of the law prohibiting the manumission of slaves over forty-five years of age, was to prevent persons manumifing their old and worn out slaves to become chargeable to their respective counties, and as this bill leaves this negro in precisely the same situation that he is now in, as to his claims for support, in case he shall become unable to procure a subsistence, and provides that he shall in no event come upon the county for support, we cannot see any evil to be apprehended from the passage of the bill; we therefore hope, upon further consideration, you will pass the bill either in its present shape, or with such amendments as you may think necessary.

By order,

Jno. Brewer, Clk.

Mr. Howard presents a petition from sundry citizens of Baltimore, praying for a law to authorise an additional inspector of fish; referred to Messrs. Howard, Tyson and Shower.

Mr. Barnes reports a bill, entitled, An act to authorise the governor and council of Maryland to appoint the inspectors of flour for the city of Baltimore. Ordered, That the same have a second reading on Monday.

Mr. Chapman presents a petition from Wady Posey for support; referred to the standing committee.

The bill entitled, An additional supplement to the act, entitled, An act directing the manner of suing out attachments in this province, and limiting the extent of them, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Merrick, the following was inserted after the 1st section.