

sity for altering it in this particular, but continued the provision, and placed it in the front of the amending law. Thus it appears, that this chartered privilege of managing their own police and concerns within themselves, has never been surrendered by the citizens of Annapolis, but has been twice solemnly accorded and confirmed to them—once by the convention, and once by the legislature. When her charter was amended by the legislature of 1818-19, the city, by the petition of a very large majority of her inhabitants, asked for and assented to it; but your committee beg leave to state, that her representatives now unite with a large majority of her petitioning citizens in protesting against the proposed change, and in declaring that they feel and know of no such inconveniences as are complained of by a minority of the petitioners; and aver that none such exist. Wherefore, the members of your committee, who unite in this report, being of opinion that it is incompetent to the legislature to infringe a chartered privilege of the city of Annapolis, without her assent, properly and legally expressed, and finding that her representation withhold their assent to the amendment proposed by a minority of the petitioners; and being of opinion, that it would be unjust to alter a clause of the constitution which relates solely to the city of Annapolis; when it appears that a majority of her petitioning citizens withhold their assent, and positively object to such alteration; and being of opinion that it would be unjust for the legislature to pass even an act of assembly; of exclusively local operation, and in no way relating to the state at large, or its concerns, unless called for by the representatives of those who are to be affected by it, or the larger proportion of the people themselves, by their petition; beg leave decidedly to recommend, that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition. The members of your committee who unite in this report, cannot but express their unfeigned surprise, that even the small portion of the voters of the city of Annapolis, who have signed this petition, should, after so many years of peace, happiness and quiet, under the existing arrangements of their charter, and the constitution, now feel it necessary to call for so important a change in them, and this, too, without assigning any other reasons for the application, than such as must have always existed, or even alluding to any change of circumstances which make it necessary.

On motion by Farquhar, the following resolution was read:

By the House of Delegates, March 6, 1826.

Resolved, That the treasurer of the western shore pay to John Brewer, William Kilty, Gideon Pearce, Thomas S. Alexander and Isaac Hines, each, the sum of one hundred dollars, as a further compensation for their extraordinary services during the present session.

On motion by Mr. Boon, the following report was twice read and concurred with, and the resolution sent to the senate.

Whereas, it appears by the provisions of a law passed Dec. session 1820, chap. 131, that the president and directors of Chester bridge company, or the managers named in an act of Dec. session 1819, chap. 153, are obligated to the state of Maryland in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars, to make the draw of said bridge 40 feet wide, out of the clear proceeds of the lottery mentioned in the two acts above named, within twelve months after the completion of said lottery: And whereas, it now appears that the time thus allowed may not be sufficient for the fulfilment of said obligation, in a proper manner; therefore, Be it Resolved, That the managers above mentioned, or the president and directors of Chester bridge company, as the case may be, be allowed