

Several communications from the internal improvement companies and other sources have been received, and will be laid before you.

In conformity with the request of the Legislature, copies were forwarded of the following resolutions of the last session, - resolutions in relation to the increase of the Navy of the United States; resolutions in relation to the Santa Fe traders; and preamble and resolutions in relation to the District of Columbia.

Agreeably to direction of resolution No. 31, of the last session, orders were given for the manufacture of a sword to be presented to Captain John A. Webster, as provided for in resolution No. 3, of December session 1835. Although no time was lost in giving the necessary order, the sword has not yet been prepared. So soon as it is received, it will be presented.

The repairs authorized to be made to tobacco warehouses No. 1, and 3, in the City of Baltimore, by resolution No. 28 of last session have been made. Those made to Warehouse No. 1 amount to \$1,356.79 $\frac{1}{2}$, and those to Warehouse No. 3 to \$478.20.

By the act of 1827, Chap. 140, the sum of \$3,500 is annually appropriated for the education of the indigent deaf and dumb of this State; and by the act of 1837, Chap. 173 the sum of \$1,000 is annually appropriated for the education of the indigent blind. The act of 1839 Chap. 28, provides, that in case there shall be recommended to the Governor by the Trustees of the Poor of the different counties, more indigent blind children than can be educated under the provisions of the act of 1837, Chap. 173, any surplus which may annually remain in the treasury of the sum of \$3,500, for the education of the deaf and dumb, shall be applied to the education of the indigent blind. In pursuance of the provisions of these acts, the sum of \$2,065.94 was expended during the last year for the education of the deaf and dumb, and the sum of \$1,610, for the education of the blind, leaving in the treasury of the joint fund, unapplied, the sum of \$821.06.

In the month of April 1840 a murder was committed in Frederick County by Frederick Fritz alias Jacob Brucher, who was at the following April term of Carroll County Court, tried, convicted and sentenced to be hung. My immediate predecessor signed the warrant for his execution but afterwards granted a respite at the request of a number of respectable persons who suggested doubts of his sanity. This was done to give an opportunity of collecting information respecting his previous history, which it seemed, has not been made a subject of inquiry at his trial. Many depositions and communications were received by my predecessor, stating particulars, which judgment, if truly set forth were sufficient to show that Fritz had been subject to fits of insanity for many years, and that he was completely deranged when last seen in the City of Washington, a few before the commission of the crime. Statements were also received of the opinion of respectable and intelligent citizens of Westminster who had opportunities of seeing and conversing with the prisoner. Their opinion was, that he was in full possession of his reason, and subject to no disorder of his mind, except such as was occasionally produced by a violent and ungovernable temper.

The conflicting character of these statements as to the sanity of the prisoner, determined my predecessor (after consulta-