

method of assault," he proceeds, " may be to effect, in the form of the constitution, alterations which will impair the energy of the system, and thus undermine what cannot be directly overthrown." Thus warned from such exalted authority, it behooves the people of the United States to touch, with awful caution, the principles of the great charter upon which rests so eminently the general welfare; at this crisis, when a fair, full and successful experiment of the wise, energetic and salutary principles and provisions of our constitution has been made, and its wisdom undeniably established; when the administration of this constitution is so ably conducted in its several departments, and tranquillity, safety and happiness, thereby diffused throughout the union, equal rights protected, and the interests of the whole eminently promoted and preserved, it would be highly impolitic to hazard the general harmony, in giving a constitutional sanction to a measure, we consider, can be productive of no possible general good, but may tend, in its mischievous effects, to unhinge the leading principles upon which some of the most valuable and salutary provisions of the constitution are founded, and thereby introduce national discord, and a subversion of all government; the proposed amendment, therefore, being, in the opinion of the committee, unwise, unsafe and impolitic, and as they are friends to the confederation, and hostile to any measure which has a tendency to endanger the union, they submit the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That in the opinion of the legislature of Maryland the amendment to the constitution of the United States, proposed by the legislature of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, ought not to be adopted.

RESOLVED, That the governor of this state be and he is hereby requested to transmit an official copy of the foregoing report and resolution to the governor of the commonwealth of Massachusetts.

By order,

J. B. DUCKETT, clk.

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The resolution respecting the interest on the loan of money by the state to the president and trustees of Charlotte Hall school, was read the second time and dissented from.

The following message was read and agreed to.

BY THE SENATE, JANUARY 17, 1805.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

WE have received the bill, entitled, An act to authorise the vestry of St. Paul's parish, in Baltimore county, to draw a lottery within the city of Baltimore, together with a message announcing your dissent from the second amendment proposed by us to that bill, and as no sufficient reasons have been stated to induce an alteration of our opinion on the subject, we have declined to reconsider the same.

By order,

T. W. HALL, clk.

The bill, entitled, An act to empower the governor and council to direct a sale of any vacancy or vacancies adjoining the land lately belonging to the Principio and Nottingham companies, was read the second time and will not pass.

The bill, entitled, An act to empower the clerk of Calvert county to remove certain records from the seat of justice, was read the second time by especial order and will pass.

The bill, entitled, An act to extend the powers of the levy court of Harford county in the case therein mentioned, was read the second time and will pass.

The resolution in favour of Benjamin Fickle was read the second time and dissented from.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivers the following resolutions:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, JANUARY 17, 1805.

RESOLVED, That John E. Howard, Thomas Dickson, Josiah Pennington, Thomas M'Elerry, Robert C. Long, Levi Hollingsworth, Daniel Conn, Samuel Sterrett and George Warner, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to superintend the erection of a penitentiary for the reception of the criminals to be condemned within this state, and that the said commissioners, or a majority of them, be and they are hereby authorised and directed to agree on a scite for the said buildings, and to propose a plan to be submitted to the executive of this state, and when approved of by them, to contract for and superintend the execution of the same; and for the purpose of defraying the expence thereof, the amount of the proceeds of the fines, forfeitures, licences and amerciaments, to be collected within the city and county of Baltimore, be and they are hereby appropriated; and the said commissioners, or a majority of them, are hereby authorised to receive the same, to be accounted for annually, with the expenditure thereof, to the legislature, and to borrow money, if necessary, on the credit of said taxes.

By order,

J. B. DUCKETT, clk.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, JANUARY 17, 1805.

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Thomas Nicholls, of Simon, of Montgomery county, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and find from the vouchers exhibited, that the said Nicholls purchased from William Marbury, agent of the state of Maryland, two hundred and fifty acres of land, lying and being in Montgomery county, at thirty shillings per acre, and from an agreement made with the agent, it was stipulated that an accurate survey of the aforesaid lands should be made, and upon such survey made thereof, if it should be found to contain more, it was to be paid for at the same price, and if found to be less, to be deducted at the same price per acre; that the said Nicholls, at his own expence, did have the said