

a supplement to the act entitled, an act to establish pilots and regulate their fees; the bill entitled, an act for the benefit of the infant children of John Burgoine, severally endorsed, "will not pass." Also a bill entitled, an act authorising James Sloan, senior, of the city of Baltimore as attorney for Doctor Joseph Mackrill to execute a deed to Edward Harris for the lands therein mentioned, and a bill entitled, an act for the relief of Peter G. Clarke, passed by the Senate December 28; which were severally read.

The house proceeded to the consideration of the report of the committee of grievances and courts of justice, relative to the late mobs and riots in the city of Baltimore, and after some time spent in reading the depositions relative thereto, the house adjourned until this evening, 5 o'clock.

POST MERIDIAN, 5 o'clock.

The house met.—Mr. Banning appeared in the house.

Mr. Bayly delivers a bill entitled, an act for the relief of Henry King; Mr. Bowles a bill entitled, an act to continue in force the acts of assembly which would expire with the present session; and Mr. Wright a bill entitled, an act for the benefit of John W. Hackett, of Queen Ann's county; which were severally read.

Mr. Millard, from the committee, delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the address of Neale H. Shaw, of Charlotte Hall, St. Mary's county, upon the subject of the variation of the magnetic needle, having had the same under consideration, report that they are fully convinced that the object of the investigation contained in the address submitted to their consideration, is one in which the whole community is greatly interested; for if the discovery of the means of correcting erroneous surveys, of the evidence of such errors in future, & of correctly ascertaining the true location of lands, be an object in which the mass of the people of Maryland (and we might add of the United States) are deeply interested, the subject of the address must be deemed highly important and justly meriting the serious consideration of the legislature.

Your committee having attentively considered the subject, are of opinion that the method proposed for ascertaining the variation of the magnetic needle would succeed if attempted. And they beg leave to add that the said Shaw's ingenious theory of magnetism, his attentive observation of the regular and irregular variations of the needle, and his labor patriotically bestowed in maturing a practicable plan for ascertaining its true or regular variation, justly merit the approbation and applause of this legislature, and if his plan succeeds, they think he should receive some ostensible token of approbation from the government of his native state. Believing it to be the duty of a wise legislature, to consider with attention any proposition which may be likely to foster and encourage every discovery or invention from which there may probably result a public benefit, guarding on the one hand against a lavish and improvident expenditure of the public treasure, and on the other, against a parsimonious forbearance when objects of public utility present themselves: Your committee would earnestly recommend that measures calculated to ensure a judicious and economical experiment of the proposed plan be immediately adopted by this legislature; and for this purpose your committee submit to your consideration the following resolution.

Resolved, That the Governor and Council be, and they are hereby requested to enquire into the probable expence that would be requisite to carry into effect, the method proposed by Neale H. Shaw, in his address to this legislature, for ascertaining the regular variation of the magnetic needle, including the erection of the necessary structures, the purchase of instruments, and the annual salary of a person competent to make the observations; and also to select the place which in their opinion would be the most proper for the object contemplated, and to report thereon to the next General Assembly.

By order,

JOHN STEVENS, Junr. Clk.

Which was read.

The bill entitled, an act authorising James Sloan, Senior, of the city of Baltimore, as attorney for Doctor Joseph Mackrill, to execute a deed to Edward Harris, for the lands therein mentioned, was read the second time by special order and passed.

Mr. Randall delivers a petition from sundry inhabitants of Baltimore and Frederick counties, members of the Lutheran and Presbyterian congregation of the Jerusalem Church in Frederick county, praying an act of incorporation; which was read and referred to Messrs. Randall, Stansbury, Harryman, Davis and Delaplane.

The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of grievances and courts of justice, and after some time spent in reading the depositions relative thereto, the house adjourned until tomorrow morning nine o'clock.

TUESDAY, December 29, 1812.

THE House met.—Present the same members as on yesterday.—The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. McCulloh delivers a bill entitled, an act authorising a lottery to raise a sum of money to purchase a Fire Engine in Cumberland, in Allegany county; which was read.

The amendments proposed by the senate to the bill entitled, an act for founding an university in the city or precincts of Baltimore, by the name of the University of Maryland; the amendments proposed to the bill entitled, an act vesting the property therein mentioned in certain trustees, for the use and benefit of the Society of Friends or people called Quakers, constituting the monthly meeting of Baltimore, for the eastern district in the city of Baltimore; and the amendments proposed to the bill entitled, an act for draining a branch or swamp called the Bee Tree Swamp, lying in Caroline county, were severally read the second time, assented to, and the bills ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. McCulloh delivers a petition from Thomas Clinton of Allegany county, an old revolutionary soldier, praying relief; which was read and referred to Messrs. McCulloh, Callis and Robinett.