

The bill entitled, an act supplementary to an act entitled, an act to incorporate the Washington Cotton Manufacturing Company of the City of Baltimore, was read the second time and passed.

The bill entitled, a further supplement to the act entitled, an act to confirm a road in Harford and Baltimore counties, was read the second time and passed.

Mr. Kilgour delivers a bill entitled, an act to prevent geese and swine from going at large in the town of Rockville, in Montgomery county; and a bill entitled, an act for the benefit of the infant heirs of Henry Brooke, late of Montgomery county, deceased; which were severally read.

Mr. Culbreth delivers a petition from Wm. Start, of Caroline county, praying that a law may pass authorising the recording of a deed from John Ridgway to Benjamin Wilson, for land purchased from Wilson's heirs by the petitioner; which was read and referred to Messrs. Culbreth, Saulsbury and Potter.

Mr. Callis delivers a petition from sundry inhabitants of the city of Baltimore, praying a repeal of the law for the extension of Pratt street; which was read and referred to Messrs. Callis, Stone, street, F. M. Hall, Cottonson and Panham.

Mr. Wilson from the committee delivers the following report:

The committee of elections and privileges to whom was referred the memorial of Thomas H. Bowie, Esquire, contesting the validity of the late election of delegates for the city of Annapolis, Report, That they have investigated the facts stated in the said memorial, and have taken a number of depositions applicable thereto, which accompany this report, and are submitted as a part thereof.

It appears in evidence to the committee that a number of the soldiers of the army of the United States, belonging to the detachment stationed at the fort in said city, which is the property of the United States, were permitted to vote at the said election; that some of the said soldiers had no claim to residence in the said city, except what arises from the accidental circumstance of their forming a part of the detachment of the U. S. troops stationed at this port; that exclusive of their want of the voluntary bona fide residence intended by the law and the constitution to entitle to vote, and exclusive of the general objection which occurs to the admission of the votes of soldiers of the United States army in a place, where they may be at any time ordered for the purpose of gratifying the political views and interests of the executive of the United States and his dependants, there are in this case strong circumstances in proof to the committee of the arbitrary and undue influence practised by the officer commanding the said detachment in controlling the votes of the said soldiers. That on the day of election they were drawn up in military array at the fort, and were told by the officer that if any of them intended to vote for the memorialist, Thomas H. Bowie, Esq. or the federal ticket as it was styled, they must step out of the ranks, for that no man who intended to vote should leave the garrison, and that the soldier who did not vote for what was styled the democratic ticket would be forsworn by breaking his oath of allegiance to the United States or the President thereof; that the soldiers were afterwards marched up to the polls in military uniform, headed by the officer, who remained at the polls to see that each soldier deposited his ballot, and that they then marched back in the same military order to the fort.

It is unnecessary for the committee to urge those considerations which will occur to every independent mind in the recital of this proceeding so entirely subversive of the freedom and purity of elections, and so well calculated in its nature and tendency to establish the dominion of military usurpation and corrupt power on the ruins of public liberty.

It also appears to your committee that the several acts of assembly changing the system of elections in this state, have not altered or in any manner affected the provisions of the constitution, and the charter of the city of Annapolis relative to the time for which the polls were to be kept open in the elections for the said city; that a number of the legal voters therein did not vote at the late election, because they were under the impression that the polls were to be kept open for four days, as a matter of right under the constitution, and conformably to ancient usage whenever it was required; and that the mayor, recorder and aldermen of the said city, acting as judges of the election closed the polls on the evening of the first day, although all the legal voters therein had not polled, and although the closing of the said polls was then positively objected to by the memorialist, by whom it was demanded that the polls should be kept open for four days.

The committee of elections and privileges submit it for the consideration of the house, on the foregoing statement, whether the said election was held agreeably to the law and the constitution and whether the same should be vacated and a new writ of election issue.

By order,

LOUIS GASSAWAY, Clk.

Which was read

Mr. Hands from the committee delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Sarah Morgan, widow of Charles Morgan of Kent county, deceased, beg leave to report, that they have taken the same into consideration and are fully satisfied of the truth of the facts therein stated, and therefore submit the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer of the western shore of this state be hereby authorised and directed to pay the said Sarah Morgan, or her order, during her life, annually, in quarterly payments the sum of forty-eight dollars, out of any unappropriated money in the treasury.

By order,

BEN. GRAY, Clk.

Mr. John R. Evans from the committee delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of David McCann, find the allegations therein contained to be only true in part, inasmuch as it has come to the knowledge of one of the committee, that the petitioner has, or ought to have real and personal property in the state of Penn-