

FREDERICK COUNTY, FREDERICK TOWN, Dec. 31, 1822.

To the honorable House of Delegates of Maryland,

The clerk of Frederick county court herewith reports, in compliance with a direction of the select committee appointed to enquire into the administration of justice, such information required by them as he is enabled to give, viz.

1820, M. T.—Original suits from 1st January, 1820, 606; cases satisfied, off, agreed, countermanded, &c. 28; renewals on non ests to next term 72; judgments by confession and trials on scifas 7; total 107; continued on imparlance 499. Oct. term—Original suits including the renewals on non est of the last term 993; cases satisfied, off, agreed, countermanded, &c. 144; renewals to next term on non ests 122; judgments by confession, &c. 3; total 269; continued on imparlance 724. 1821, M. T.—Originals including the renewals 1082; cases satisfied, off, agreed countermanded, &c. 141; renewals to next term on non ests 129; judgments by confession, &c. 19; total 289; continued on imparlance 793. Oct. term—Originals including renewals, &c. 1295; cases satisfied, off, agreed, countermanded, &c. 191; renewals to next term on non ests 139; judgments by confession, &c. 46; total 376; continued on imparlance 919. 1822, M. T.—Original suits including renewals 655; satisfied, off, agreed, countermanded, &c. 79; renewals to next term 80; judgments by confession, &c. 15; total 174; continued on imparlance 481. Oct. term—Originals including renewals 904; satisfied, off, agreed, countermanded &c. 110; renewals to next term 101; judgments by confession &c. 19; total 230; continued on imparlance 674. Originals to the 31st Dec. 1822, inclusive 155; of which number 88 are renewals.

March term 1820—Trials on the civil docket 715; tried and disposed of 437; of which eight trials by jury. Continued to next term 278. Oct. term—Trials is 1193; tried and disposed of 783; of which 23 trials by jury. Continued to next term 410. March term 1821—Trials 1011; tried and disposed of 560; of which 9 trials by jury. Continued to next term 451. Oct. term—Trials 1152; tried disposed of 681; of which 17 trials by jury. Continued to next term 471. March term 1822—Trials 1245; tried and disposed of 782; of which ten trials by jury. Continued to next term 463. October term—Trials 1347; tried and disposed of 779; one tried by jury on a contested will and continued 9 days. Continued to next term 568.

Entire number of cases on the equity docket 380; of which there have been decrees and dismissals 268; this No. is now on the docket not disposed of and many of which have been filed recently 112; of the above there have been 194 cases finally closed and recorded; ten cases of lunacy; 64 cases not closed but progressing, and 112 cases stand continued. March term 1820—Presentments 50; trials by jury at same term 19; of which 9 convicted and sent to the penitentiary; 6 verdicts not guilty; 1 banished the state; 1 whipped, 1 fined, 1 sentenced to be hanged. October term—presentments 36; trials by jury 2; of which 2 sentenced to be hanged 2 submissions and acquitted. March term 1821—Presentments 44; trials by jury 4; of which 1 convicted and sent to the penitentiary, 3 verdicts not guilty, 1 removed for trial to Baltimore county. October term—Presentments 42; trials by jury 11; of which 7 convicted and sent to the penitentiary, 3 verdicts not guilty, 1 guilty and whipped. March term 1822—Presentments 45; trials by jury 15; of which 9 convicted and sent to the penitentiary, 5 verdicts not guilty, 1 guilty and fined. October term—Presentments 71; trials by jury 23; of which 9 convicted and sent to the penitentiary, 10 verdicts not guilty, 2 guilty and fined, 2 do. and whipped.

The time for the trial of criminals, is the first part of the court, and has the preference to civil cases at all times, when the attorney for the state is ready for trial.

March term 1820—Criminal trials 16, do. writs 32; total 48; disposed of, 13 trials by jury, 7 submissions, 2 indictments ignoramus, 11 non ests and renewed to next term, 10 continued. October term—Criminal trials 10, do. writs 53; total 63; disposed of, 10 trials by jury, 17 submissions, 3 indictments ignoramus, 16 non ests and renewed to next term, 3 orders not to renew, 14 continued. March term 1821—Criminal trials 14, do. writs 51; total 65; disposed of, 8 trials by jury, 17 submissions, 3 indict's ignoramus, 4 renewed on non ests, 23 orders to discontinue or renew, 10 continued to next term. October term—Criminal trials 10, do. writs 51; total 61; disposed of, 8 trials by jury, 28 submissions, 1 indictment ignoramus, 16 renewals on non ests, one order not to renew, 7 continued to next term. March term 1821—Criminal trials 7, do. writs 47; total 54; disposed of, 7 trials by jury, 16 submissions, 3 indictments ignoramus, 17 renewals on non ests, 4 ordered not to renew, 7 continued to next term. October term—Criminal trials 7, do. writs 56; total 63; disposed of, 9 trials by jury, 17 submissions, 4 indictments ignoramus, 22 renewals on non ests, 5 ordered not to renew, 6 continued to next term.

Appeals from judgments of justices of the peace, March term 1820. Appeal cases 65, disposed of 17, continued to next term 48; hearing, the 3d Saturday of the term. October term—Appeals including those continued 99, disposed of 18, continued to next term 81; hearing the 3d Saturday of the term. March term 1821—Appeals 100, disposed of 16, continued to next term 84; hearing the 3d Saturday of the term. October term—Appeals 112, disposed of 70, continued to next term 42; hearing 3d Monday of the term, and continue. March term 1822—Appeals including those cont'd. 81, disposed of 19, continued to next term 62; hearing the 3rd Monday of the term and continue. October term—Appeals is 110, disposed of none; hearing 3d Monday of the term.

Appeals to the court of appeals.—March term 1820, none; October term, 9; March term 1821, 4; October term, 6; March term 1822, 12; October term 11; total 42. Affirmations of judgments on the above are not known to the clerk here. Returned on procedendo only one. Adjournments by the court during their regular sessions are to 9 o'clock in the morning, and in the recess 10 and sometimes 11 o'clock A.M. The adjournments are principally in the recess of the court, to make the necessary docket entries, signing decrees, orders, and other matters on the equity side of the court, the business of that nature being principally matured at the judge's