

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Price offered the following message; which was read and laid on the table.
 BY THE SENATE, January 24, 1824.

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates—The senate consider it a matter of great importance to the people of this state, that some means should be provided for publishing the decisions of the court of appeals. These decisions have in all important cases for some years past, been written by the judges, and are now filed of record; they form a most important and interesting portion of the jurisprudence of Maryland, which like the edicts of the Roman empire are placed beyond the reach of those who lie under their control, and must abide their sanctions.

The general government and many of the states have thought this a matter of sufficient moment to authorise the appointment of reporters, with such salaries as have been found sufficient to ensure the yearly publication of their decisions. It is not, however, intended that the legislature shall make, in the present case, any thing more than a temporary provision. It is only required that the decisions up to the present period should be published under the patronage of the state. The increased interest and value which by this means would be imparted to the subsequent volumes, would enable the publishers to proceed without further aid from the state; and a subscription for two hundred copies of the volumes comprising all the decisions up to the present period, would, it is thought, ensure their publication.

The laws and votes and proceedings of every session of the legislature, are regularly published for the information of the people. This is done at an expense very much exceeding that which is now asked for the accomplishment of an object intimately affecting the life, liberty and property of every individual in the community. The acts of the legislature have not perhaps a more decisive influence, upon the jurisprudence of the state, than have the decisions of the court of appeals. Every motive therefore which induces the publication of the one, must equally induce that of the other.

The senate entertain some doubt of their power to originate a proposition directing the publication of said decisions—they therefore respectfully invite the attention of your honorable body to the subject, and would be highly pleased if some means could be provided to effect this desirable object.

The senate adjourned until Monday morning 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, Jan. 26, 1824.

The senate met. Present the same members as on Saturday. The proceedings of Saturday were read.

The additional supplement to the act to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from the market space in Hagers' town, to the west bank of Conococheague; was read the second time and laid on the table. The bill to amend the law in certain cases being the order of the day, was on motion, ordered to lie on the table. The clerk of the house of delegates delivered a bill, entitled an act to incorporate the Fell's Point Washington Beneficial Society; and a bill entitled an act to preserve the breed of fish in Antietam creek; which were severally read the first time and laid on the table; and returned the bill to incorporate the Baltimore Chemical Manufacturing Company, endorsed, "amendment to the amendment assented to" and it was ordered to be engrossed. The supplement to the act against excessive usury, was read a third time, passed and sent to the house of delegates. The bill to authorise an exchange of certain lots of ground lying in the city of Baltimore; was read a second and third time by special order, passed and sent to the house of delegates. The bill for the relief of Josias Young; was read a third time, passed with the proposed amendments and returned to the house of delegates. The further supplement to the act directing the manner of suing out attachments in this province, and limiting the extent of them; was read a third time, passed and sent to the house of delegates.

Mr. Johnson from the committee to whom was referred the bill to provide for the widening of Cheapside street, in the city of Baltimore, reported that the committee had had the same under consideration, and were of opinion that it ought to pass. The bill was then read a second, and by special order a third time, passed and returned to the house of delegates.

The clerk of the house of delegates returned the bill for the re-valuation of real and personal property in Anne Arundel and Allegany counties, with the following message:

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, Jan. 26, 1824.

Gentlemen of the Senate—We return you the bill, entitled an act for the revaluation of real and personal property in Anne Arundel and Allegany counties, hoping that your honorable body will reconsider the same. We are willing to agree to the 1st and 2d amendments, proposed by you. The 3d and 4th, except that of striking out "Henry Hammond," and inserting "Jacob Williams," we cannot agree to, believing as we do, that the delegations from Anne Arundel county and the city of Annapolis, coming immediately as they do, from the people, are the best judges, who ought to be the commissioners of the tax. We therefore hope, that upon consideration, you will recede from the 3d and 4th amendments, except that of striking out "Henry Hammond" and inserting "Jacob Williams." By order,

JOHN BREWER, Clk.

Which was read. And delivered the bill, entitled an act, to repeal an act passed at December session 1815, chapter 161, for the benefit of the infant children of Jeremiah Crabb, late Montgomery county; which was read the first time and laid on the table. Also a bill, entitled an act for the relief of Wm. R. King, of Frederick county; which was read the first time, and referred to Messrs. Johnson, Miller, Claude, Orrell and Quinton.