

science of neighboring states and the progress of information, and having engrossed so much of the time of the legislature for the last two years, the senate are unwilling to close the present session without giving some more substantial proof of their concern for the advancement of the great interests of the state, than have been evinced by the resolutions for the examination of the several routes of these great water communications, and their assent to mere acts of incorporation unassisted by the necessary pecuniary aid to accomplish these valuable purposes. On a question so vitally important to the good people of this state, it is deeply to be regretted that any conflicting opinions arising from local considerations should be entertained; the senate being persuaded that when this subject is dispassionately and carefully examined, it will be apparent that the true interests of the state calls for the completion of all these improvements. To consummate this policy it is only necessary to lay aside our prejudices and to unite in some plan by which the pecuniary resources of the state may be applied in just and reasonable proportions to the several canals proposed to be made. They therefore invite your honorable body to a conference, and have appointed Messrs. Bowie, Fenwick and Johnson, to join the gentlemen who may be appointed by your house.

By order,

W. KILTY CLK.

Which was read, and the question was put, will the senate assent to the message:

The yeas and nays being required appeared as follows:

AFFIRMATIVE.—Messrs. Stuart, Pres. Bowie, Brownley, Claude, Dickenson, Fenwick, Johnson, Kent, Miller, Price.—10.

NEGATIVE.—Messrs. Cockey, Orrell, Quinton.—3. So it was determined in the affirmative. The senate adjourned until to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, February 10, 1824.

The senate met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceeding of yesterday were read.

The resolution in favor of Philimon B. Hopper, was read a third time, assented to, and returned to the house of delegates.

The bill to confirm an act to repeal an act to alter, change and repeal such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state, as relate to the division of St. Mary's county into four election districts, passed at December session, 1822, was read a third time by special order, passed and returned to the house of delegates.

On motion the bill to alter the mode of disbursing public money, was referred to Messrs. Bowie, Dickinson and Brownly.

The clerk of the council delivered the following communication:—

COUNCIL CHAMBER, ANNAPOLIS, Feb. 10, 1824.

Gentlemen,—We have the honor to enclose to you a communication just received from the mayor of the city on a subject, the importance of which must be manifest to every member of your honorable body, and to the consideration of which we beg leave respectfully to call your attention. The government house and state house have lately been placed in considerable hazard by fire, and the necessity of having such an engine as that contemplated by the corporation to extinguish with facility that destructive element, has by these occurrences been forced upon our view. The corporation is unable to accomplish this object without the aid of the legislature, the funds at their command having been exhausted by recent improvements. As the state has considerable property located here, the destruction of which would bring upon her citizens incalculable injury, it appears to us reasonable, that she should assist in procuring such an engine, as would be calculated to afford effective aid in case of fire, and we doubt not but the legislature will cheerfully accord to the corporation the assistance required by them. We have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL STEVENS, Jr.

To the Hon. the President of the Senate, and the

Hon. the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Also, a letter from James Boyle, Mayor of the city of Annapolis, addressed to his Excellency, the Governor, requesting the aid of the state, in the purchase of a fire engine, for the use of the state and city; which were read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

On motion the question was put, "will the senate reconsider the bill incorporating the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company. Determined in the affirmative. The question was then put, shall the bill pass? The yeas and nays being required appeared as follows:—

AFFIRMATIVE.—Messrs. Steuart, Pres't. Bowie, Cockey, Claude, Dickinson, Fenwick, Johnson, Kent, Price, Quinton—10.

NEGATIVE.—Messrs. Brownly, Miller, Orrell—3. Determined in the affirmative, and the bill was returned to the house of delegates.

The senate proceeded to the consideration of the message submitted by Mr. Bowie, on yesterday, proposing a committee of conference on the bill to tax certain officers; and the question was put, will the senate assent to the message—the yeas and nays being required appeared as follows:

AFFIRMATIVE.—Messrs. Bowie, Brownley, Cockey, Dickinson, Fenwick, Kent, Miller, Orrell, Quinton—9.

NEGATIVE.—Messrs. Steward, President, Claude, Johnson, Price—4.

Determined in the affirmative; and it was sent to the house of delegates.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivered a bill, entitled, an act to prevent the vending of liquors, fruit and other articles within two miles of any Methodist camp, or quarterly meet-