

and Caroline counties by the death of the late incumbents, and would respectfully propose to change the day from Thursday next to Wednesday next at 11 o'clock, A.M. as this arrangement would comport much better with the convenience of the senate, than the day proposed by your honorable body, Messrs. Kent and Miller have been appointed by the senate to join the gentlemen named by you to count the ballots and report thereon.

By order,

WM. KILTY, Clerk.

Mr. Chambers offered the following message, which was read and laid on the table:

BY THE SENATE, Dec. 29th, 1825.

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,*

We have received your message, proposing a joint committee to consider the propriety of opening a direct communication with the legislatures of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware on the subject of absconding slaves.

We are of opinion, that the importance of the subject and the absolute necessity of some decisive measures to relieve the citizens of our state from the immense loss which they are daily experiencing from the diminution of their property, and the abstraction of a very large proportion of the laboring class of our population, will not only justify, but require that the legislature shall pursue the most effectual means to arrest the growing evil.

We think the mission of members of the legislature to the several states above named, the most probable means in our power, or at least the most proper at the present period, and therefore respectfully propose for your concurrence the following resolution.

*Resolved,* That a joint committee, consisting of two members from the senate and three from the house of delegates, be appointed and directed to visit the legislatures of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, to confer with those bodies respectively, upon the measures best calculated to prevent the absconding of slaves from this state, and of securing their recovery.

We have named Messrs. \_\_\_\_\_ to unite with such gentlemen as may be named by you, should the proposed resolution meet your approbation.

On motion by Mr. Miller, the petition of Jonathan Parker, of Cecil county, was referred to Messrs. Miller, Orrell and Dickenson.

The house adjourned until to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY, December 30th, 1825.

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