

The senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill entitled, an act against excessive usury, the same being the order of the day, and the question was the same, being on the engrossment of the bill as heretofore amended, and the question was put, "shall the bill as amended be engrossed for a third reading?" Determined in the affirmative.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivered the following message, which was read:

By the House of Delegates, January 15th, 1827.

Gentlemen of the Senate,

A committee having been selected in each branch of the Legislature to which have been referred the communication from Gidon Pearce and an accompanying draft of a bill entitled an act to amend and reduce into one system the several acts of assembly respecting officers fees, prepared and printed by virtue of the resolution of the general assembly with instructions to the said committees carefully to examine and revise the said draft, and report thereon to their respective houses, as early as may be practicable with such modifications, alterations or amendments thereof, as in their opinion may appear necessary and proper.

We therefore respectfully propose, with the concurrence of your honorable body to unite the said committees, believing that the objects contemplated by the respective references may be thereby greatly promoted. And we further propose, with the concurrence of your honorable body that said committees meet together and sit during the settings of our respective houses, and when so invited that they have power to send for persons and papers as in their judgment may be deemed necessary.

By order,

Gideon Pearce, Clerk.

Also a resolution in favour of Morton Tagart of Washington county, which was read the first time.

Also a bill entitled an act to make valid a deed from John Miles to John Colburn late of Somerset county deceased, which was read the first time and referred to the committee on invalid deeds.

Mr. Spence delivered the following report which was read and concurred with.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of the fourth election district in Worcester county, praying that the constitution may be so changed, that the said election district, may be divided into two election districts, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report.—That the number and respectability of the persons who have signed the said petition, satisfy your committee, that the prayer of the petitioners is reasonable, yet your committee are advised that the same, or greater necessity exists, for subdividing other election districts in the said county, and that it may be necessary, either to subdivide or to change the lines of