

'threatened or,' and after the word 'to' insert the words 'or apprehended by.'

In the 4th line of the 6th section after the word 'charged' insert the words 'and if the said officer shall find on board any boat or boats, the owner or owners whereof has or have not resided in the state twelve months immediately preceding, the proof of which residence shall rest upon the defendant or defendants, any oysters, scoop drag or any other instrument that is used for the purpose of taking or catching oysters, except tongs or rakes, it shall be considered prima facie evidence of guilt by the said justice of the peace.'

Insert the following as the 7th section:

'Sec. 7. Be it enacted, That all fines and forfeitures under this act shall be recovered before a justice of the peace in the same manner that small debts out of court are now recovered.'

The bill entitled, an act for the relief of the citizens of Maryland holding persons of colour to service for a term of years, and to prevent their absconding, being entitled to a second reading, was taken up for consideration,

And whilst progressing in the reading,

On motion of Mr. Hughlett, the following amendment was read and assented to:

In the 8th line of the 2d section after the words 'sales of' insert the words 'all the right of the master or mistress in and to.'

On motion of Mr. Pigman, the following amendment was read:

Strike out the 2d section of the bill.

Mr. Dennis moved to amend the said 2d section by adding thereto the following proviso:

'Provided said court or judge shall be of opinion that the absconding of such slave was not occasioned by improper conduct on the part of his owner or owner's agent.'

The question was put and decided in the affirmative.

The question was then put,

'Will the senate agree to strike out the said 2d section?'

The yeas and nays being asked for were taken and appeared as follows:

AFFIRMATIVE.

Messrs. Forrest, (Prest.)	Osborn,
Mayer,	Pigman,
Montgomery,	Sappington—6