

Mr. Earle, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to erect a town in Queen-Anne's county; which was read the first and second time by especial order, and passed. Sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. Oneale, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the establishment and regulation of the levy courts in the several counties of this state; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Shriver, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Nicholas Tice and George Burkhart, of Frederick county, report, that they have examined the facts set forth in said petition, and believe them true as stated. The committee, under all circumstances, do not think the petitioners entitled to the relief prayed for, but submit the propriety of striking off the interest arising due on their debt now on judgment, and giving them further indulgence as to the payment thereof until the first day of October next. All which is submitted to the house.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read.

On the second reading the said report, the question was put, That the said petitioners be released from the interest due on their balance as securities for Adam Fisher? Resolved in the affirmative.

The question was then put, That the said Tice and Burkhart be allowed until the first day of October next for the payment of the said balance? Resolved in the affirmative.

Whereas the existing laws of this state are, from a variety of causes, confused, uncertain and contradictory: And whereas a proper and able revision of the same might greatly tend to the security and preservation of the lives, liberties and property, of the good people of this state: And whereas it is a badge and monument of former dependence that British statutes should be cited in our courts of justice, which conveys, at the same time, the false and disgraceful idea that the citizens of Maryland are not competent to legislate for themselves; therefore, RESOLVED, That the five following gentlemen, to wit: Philip B. Key, Samuel Chase, William Pinkney, Luther Martin and Alexander C. Hanson, be appointed to revise the existing laws of this state, and report to the next general assembly what acts of assembly or British statutes are now in force; and that in constructing and executing the said report, they observe the following directions: 1st. They are required to compile, digest and consolidate, into one bill, all acts of assembly and British statutes, or all such part or parts of such acts and statutes, as are now in force in this state, which relate to the same subject, and which may, with propriety, be reduced under one general title. 2d. In these general bills, such statutes and acts of assembly, or such part or parts of such statutes and acts of assembly, shall be arranged in the order, and with marginal entries of the time and reign, in which they were respectively enacted. 3d. In reporting the British statutes, they shall not use or adopt the enacting style of such statutes, but shall substitute in its place that which is provided for acts of assembly by the 57th section of the constitution and form of government of this state.

RESOLVED, That the legislature will guaranty to the said Philip B. Key, Samuel Chase, William Pinkney, Luther Martin and Alexander C. Hanson, a liberal compensation for their time and services devoted to the purposes contemplated by these resolutions.

Mr. Martin, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to prevent slaves acting as free in the several counties therein mentioned; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Sprigg, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Thomas Clarke, report, that they find the facts therein stated to be true, and are of opinion that an act should pass pursuant to the prayer of said petition. All which is submitted to the house.

By order,

J. W. KING, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

T U E S D A Y, December 16, 1794.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. McKim appeared in the house.

A petition from George Waggaman, of Somerset county, praying compensation for a barrel of pork furnished colonel John Gunby, for the use of the state, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Carroll, Mr. Oneale, Mr. Frazier, Mr. Quynn and Mr. Ridgely, of William, to consider and report thereon.

On motion by Mr. Gale, seconded by Mr. Kerr, Leave given to bring in a bill to repeal that part of the act, entitled, An act for quieting possessions, enrolling conveyances and securing the estates of purchasers, which requires that deeds of bargain and sale should be indented. ORDERED; That Mr. Gale, Mr. Kerr and Mr. Key, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The report on the petition of William Francis Lewis, was read the second time, and the question put, That the house assent to the resolution therein contained? Resolved in the affirmative. Sent to the senate by the clerk.

The resolution relative to the statute laws of Great-Britain, &c. was sent to the senate by the clerk.

The house appointed Richard Randall committee clerk. ORDERED, That he be qualified.

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