

the debts of the said deceased, and also that Mary Spear, by her guardian, may join the petitioners in such deed as may be necessary to convey to the heirs at law of said William Spear, equally among them, the parcel of land conveyed to the petitioners by the said deceased, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. M'Mechen, Mr. Key and Mr. Wilson, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Duckett, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, A supplement to the act, 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. Bourne, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to enable the vestry of Christ Church parish, in Calvert county, to sell and dispose of certain lands therein mentioned; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Robins, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Samuel Smylie, of Somerset county, report, that they have examined into the facts stated in the said petition, and are of opinion they are true, and that the case of the petitioner merits the attention of the legislature. All which is submitted.

By order,

J. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with.

Mr. Johnson, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of John Eskine and John Thomas, administrators of Richard Johns, late sheriff of Talbot county, deceased, report, that the prayer of the petitioner is reasonable and just, and that a law ought to pass in their favour.

By order,

J. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Whittington, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Hopewell, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Whittington, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act to regulate and discipline the militia of this state; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Montgomery, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act relating to sheriffs' deeds, and to provide for the relief of the securities of sheriffs and collectors who may be deceased before the expiration of their offices and the completing of their collections; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Key, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of David Smith, register of wills of Cæcil county, and of sundry sheriffs of this state, relative to their fees, report it as their opinion, that the petitioners fees of office, together with the other officers fees as established by law, ought to be revised, correctly ascertained, and in some instances moderately increased; and they further report, that there are some duties of considerable importance and trouble for which there are no fees allowed by law. The committee think it would be advisable, as it is very practicable, that all officers fees should be extended in current money, that is, dollars and cents instead of tobacco; but as this whole subject is interesting to the community at large, they recommend a committee to be appointed, consisting of a member from each county, from Baltimore-town and the city of Annapolis, to take the subject into consideration, and bring in a bill for the purposes contemplated.

By order,

Z. HUGHES, clk.

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with.

ORDERED, That Mr. W. Thomas, Mr. Barroll, Mr. Ridout, Mr. Brome, Mr. Digges, Mr. Ridgely, Mr. Sherwood, Mr. Handy, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Miller, Mr. Baker, Mr. Key, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Whittington, Mr. Brother, Mr. Jarrett, Mr. Boone, Mr. M'Mechen, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Reintzel and Mr. Clarke, be a committee to bring in a bill respecting officers fees.

Mr. Nicholson, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An additional supplement to the act, entitled, An act relating to the standard of English weights and measures; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. J. C. Thomas, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to lay out and establish a turnpike road from the city of Washington to Baltimore-town; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

ORDERED, That the said bill have a second reading on Friday next.

Mr. Barroll, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of John Patterson, James Steele, James Nesbitt, Daniel Norris, Hugh Lyon and John Sterett, all of North Susquehanna Hundred, in Cæcil county, beg leave to report, that they have examined into the allegations set forth in the said petition, and find, that the tract of land called the Widow's Lot, containing eight hundred acres, lying in Cæcil county, was granted to a certain Hester Gough, in fee-simple, prior to the grant made to George Talbot, Esquire, of Susquehanna Manor, and that the said tract of land called the Widow's Lot is included within the lines of Susquehanna Manor, but as the grant to George Talbot contains a proviso, that all grants of land before made within the bounds of the said manor should remain valid, your committee are of opinion that the right to said tract called the Widow's Lot was legally vested in the said Hester Gough, who died without issue; it appears to your committee, that since the death of Hester Gough, the petitioners, or those under whom they claim, were put in possession of the said tract of land called Widow's Lot, and had leases granted to them by a certain Richard Bennett, attorney in fact for Samuel Hyde, of the kingdom of Great Britain.