

ORDERED, That the sixteenth rule, reported by the committee appointed to report the rules proper to be observed during this session, be extended to resolutions originated in this house, or received from the senate, and also to reports of committees of this house.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of the reverend Thomas John Clagett, Samuel Chase and William Cooke, report, that they have taken the subject matter thereof into consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer thereof is reasonable and ought to be granted; your committee further find, that there exist in this state a number of religious societies, besides the protestant episcopal church, that the most of them hold property through the medium of trustees, of which they are liable to be divested by a variety of accidents, and beg leave to suggest the propriety of passing a general act of incorporation, to enable religious societies of every denomination to hold so much property as may be necessary to accommodate them in their public worship. All which is submitted.

By order,

S. MAYNARD, clk.

Which was read.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to incorporate a company for making several turnpike roads through Baltimore and Frederick counties until they intersect the divisional line between Maryland and Pennsylvania. ORDERED, That Mr. Bruce, Mr. Key, Mr. Brogden, Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Hall, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Clarke, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to authorise a lottery to improve the post-road leading through Allegany county; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Swailes, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to discontinue the donation to St. John's college; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from William Barroll, of Kent county, praying a divorce, a vinculo matrimonii, from his wife Lucretia, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Key, Mr. T. Buchanan, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Clarke and Mr. Goldsborough, to consider and report thereon.

On motion, ORDERED, That the bill to discontinue the donation to Washington college have a second reading on Tuesday the fifth of December next.

On motion, ORDERED, That the bill to discontinue the donation to Saint John's college have a second reading on Wednesday the sixth of December next.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of John C. Handy, of Worcester county, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and find the facts therein stated to be true, and are of opinion a law ought to pass to carry into effect the wishes of the petitioner; your committee further suggest to the house, that as the petition of the said John C. Handy appears to be occasioned by a seeming defect in the late act of assembly, entitled, An act relating to negroes, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned, it would not be more proper to pass a general law to explain those doubts, than require legislative interference for every case that may occur on this subject. All which is submitted to the house.

By order,

S. MAYNARD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Wilson, Mr. Robins, Mr. Rackliff, Mr. Comegys and Mr. Duckett, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill relating to distresses for rent. ORDERED, That Mr. Quynn, Mr. Robins, Mr. Duckett, Mr. Hall and Mr. Nicholson, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Elizabeth Thompson, of Saint-Mary's county, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and find the facts therein stated to be true, and are of opinion the prayer thereof ought to be granted.

By order,

J. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Margaret Davis, of Saint-Mary's county, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and find the facts therein stated to be true, and are of opinion the prayer thereof ought to be granted.

By order,

J. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read.

On motion, ORDERED, That the bill to appoint commissioners to lay off a part of the public ground in Denton, in Caroline county, for the purpose of erecting a school-house thereon, and for other purposes, be committed for amendment.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to alter such parts of the constitution of this state, so far as it excludes citizens of the state conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath from any of the rights and privileges enjoyed by other citizens thereof. ORDERED, That Mr. J. C. Thomas, Mr. Matthews, Mr. Key, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Rackliff, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

T U E S D A Y, November 21, 1797.

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

Mr. Nicholson,