

A petition from John McKiver, of the city of Washington, praying an act of insolvency, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed on petitions of a similar nature.

A petition from John Francis Mercer, of Virginia, praying he may be empowered to remove his slaves from Virginia to this state, on registering them in the county court of Anne-Arundel, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Taney, Mr. Duckett and Mr. Key, to consider and report thereon.

The bill to incorporate the Baptist church in the city of Baltimore, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. E. E. Wilson, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the benefit of Stephen White, and others, of Worcester county; which was read the first and second time by especial order, passed, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. Ridgely has leave of absence for a few days. Mr. Addison has leave of absence until Friday next.

The bill for the relief of Joseph Forrest, of George-town, Patowmack, and Thomas Earle, of Queen-Anne's county, was read the second time by especial order, and the question put, That the said bill do pass? Resolved in the affirmative.

A petition from John Usher Charlton, of Frederick county, stating, that he acted as paymaster to the sixth Maryland regiment during the late war, and praying the depreciation of pay, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Thomas, Mr. Warfield and Mr. Barroll, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Allegany county, praying an act may pass to lay out a road from Martin's ford to Cumberland, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Simkins, Mr. Beall and Mr. Cresap, of Daniel, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from the original proprietors of lands within the city of Washington, stating, that they feel, with peculiar hardship, the weight of tax imposed upon them in the assessment of property between the city and the remainder of the county, and praying relief, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. J. Magruder, Mr. Duckett, Mr. Calvert, Mr. Key and Mr. M'Pherson, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Richard J. Orme, of Montgomery county, praying the treasurer may be authorized to repay to him the sum of £. 35 13 9 out of the two thirds of the valuation of certain lands escheated by him, which sum of money he paid to the creditors of a certain Alice Smith, the former proprietor of said lands, and who died leaving no legal heirs, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Swearengen, Mr. Summers and Mr. Key, to consider and report thereon.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Peter Redhead, of Talbot county, report, that after examining into the facts stated in his memorial, and the documents therewith exhibited, are of opinion that the relief prayed for ought to be granted.

By order,

J. F. HARRIS, clk.

Which was read.

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

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Charles Heron, of Dorchester county, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and find that the said Charles has given notice of his intention to petition this assembly for an act to divorce him from his wife, but as the granting of a divorce involves in it a question serious and important, both in a moral and political point of view, your committee are at a loss what report to make thereon. They have no doubt as to the truth of the facts stated in his petition, and as his situation must be wretched and miserable in the extreme, your committee, in order to bring the question before the house, report as proper to grant the law he prays for.

By order,

J. F. HARRIS, clk.

Which was read.

A memorial from the justices of the orphans court of Talbot county, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Quynn, Mr. Edmondson, Mr. A. Buchanan, Mr. Sherwood and Mr. Warfield, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Tinsman, from the committee, brings in and delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to incorporate a company for the purpose of cutting and making a canal between the river Betaware and the Chesapeake bay; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The house adjourns till Monday morning 9 o'clock.

## M O N D A Y, December 17, 1798.

THE house met. Present the same members as on Saturday, except Mr. Ridgely and Mr. Addison. The proceedings of Saturday were read.

A petition from Mary Yeiser, of Baltimore county, praying to be divorced from her husband, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Winder, Mr. A. Buchanan and Mr. Keene, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Dorchester county, praying an act may pass for building a new gaol in the said county, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Pattison, Mr. Steele and Mr. Keene, to consider and report thereon.

Mr. Cresap