

journalment. We have to regret that the business of our house does not authorize us yet to say on what day we can adjourn, but we assure you that it shall be as early as our duty will admit.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Mr. Mason, from the committee, delivers to the speaker the following report :

THE committee to whom leave was given to bring in a bill to alter such parts of the constitution and form of government as relate to the senate of Maryland, submit the following opinions :

That in their consideration the legislative part of the constitution is defective and requires amendment, so far as relates to the senate filling up their own vacancies, being elected for so long a space of time as five years, without any responsibility to the people ; and that in their consideration the executive department is also defective, in as much as the duties to be performed by the first officer of the state are unimportant, and scarce attach either respectability or responsibility to the discharge of them, and that the responsibility of the council to the governor is very inconsiderable.

That the judicial establishment is also very defective and requires amendment, as in its present form it is inconvenient, productive of delay, and very expensive.

Your committee therefore are of opinion, that as the constitution and form of government requires amendment in its most material, substantial and important parts, and as the amending them in the form and according to the manner therein prescribed, would make it a constitution comprised and only to be found in the acts of the general assembly, that leave ought to be given to bring in a bill recommending a Convention to be assembled in the year eighteen hundred and three, to revise and amend the said constitution, and in case the said act of assembly shall be confirmed by the succeeding legislature, that then the said act shall have full force and the same validity as other acts of the legislature.

By order,

C. GIBSON, clk.

Which was read.

A petition from Thomas Jones, of Talbot county, agent for John Mills, an old soldier, praying compensation for services rendered by the said John Mills, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Rose, Mr. Nelson, Mr. A. Stuart, Mr. Tilghman and Mr. Hyland, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from John Fairbank, of Anne-Arundel county, an alien, praying confirmation of his title to certain real property, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. W. Dorsey, Mr. Harwood and Mr. L. Dorsey, to consider and report thereon.

The bill for the sale of goods distrained for rent, and to secure the goods so taken by distress, for the better security of rents, and for other purposes therein mentioned, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

The bill to prevent frauds and deceits occasioned by secret sales and other conveyances, was read the second time, and the question put, That the said bill do pass? Determined in the negative.

Mr. Lloyd, from the committee, delivers to the speaker the following report :

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of William Dawson, and others, securities of Richard Johns, deceased, late sheriff of Talbot county, report, that they have taken the same under their consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer thereof is reasonable, and ought to be granted, and therefore submit the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That William Dawson, Henry Johnson, Samuel Bowman, John Harwood, securities of Richard Johns, deceased, late sheriff of Talbot county, and Joseph Martin, executor of Benjamin Stevens, deceased, also a security of the said Richard Johns, and Mary Dudley and Thomas Dudley, administrators of Richard Dudley, deceased, another security of the said Richard Johns, deceased, be and they are hereby allowed to make payment of the balance of the principal sum due the state from them respectively on account of the said securityship, with six per cent. interest, on or before the first day of October next, and that on payment of the balance of said principal and interest due the state on or before the said first day of October next, they shall be and are hereby respectively released from the payment of the fifteen per centum imposed by law for the non-payment of the principal by the said Richard Johns in his life-time within the time prescribed by law.

By order,

L. GASSAWAY, clk.

Which was read.

A petition from Philip Fisher, of Frederick county, an old soldier, praying compensation for his services, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Nelson, Mr. Holbrook and Mr. Jones, to consider and report thereon.

A petition from Edward J. Price, of the city of Annapolis, praying an act of insolvency, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee appointed on petitions of a similar nature.

The bill annulling the marriage of John Crist, of Frederick county, and Susannah his wife, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

The bill for erecting a lazaretto near the waters of Patapsco, for the reception of persons afflicted with malignant contagious diseases, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. Van-Horn, from the committee, delivers to the speaker the following report :

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Joseph Duvall, of Prince-George's county, report that they have had the same under consideration, and are of opinion that the petitioner hath suffered, as stated