

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to alter, change and abolish, all such parts of the constitution and form of government as relates to the time of the meeting of the general assembly. ORDERED, That Mr. Carroll, Mr. Van-Horn and Mr. Lloyd, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Dorchester county, praying that a law may pass to prevent any person from staking out seines from the mouth to the head of Transquakin and Chickwiccomico rivers, was preferred, read, and referred to Mr. Smoot, Mr. Bayly and Mr. Frazier, to consider and report thereon.

The following resolution being propounded to the house, was read.

Whereas the proprietary debt books deposited in the council chamber, have received considerable injury from time and use, and some of the indexes thereto have been lost, and others impaired and mutilated: And whereas it would greatly tend to the future preservation of the said debt books that the same should be well bound, under the direction of the executive; RESOLVED, That the clerk of the council be and he is hereby required, under the direction of the governor and council, carefully to examine such of the indexes to the said debt books as now remain, and to complete the same where they shall appear to be deficient, and to make out and supply proper indexes where the original indexes have been lost, and to cause the said debt books and indexes, when so completed, to be bound up in a strong, convenient and sufficient manner; and the governor and council are hereby authorised and requested to allow and pay to the said clerk of the council such compensation for the service hereby required of him as they shall think reasonable and just.

RESOLVED, That the said debt books, when so completed, shall continue to remain in the council chamber, under the care of the clerk of the council, and that a copy from them, certified and proved in the manner that is directed in other cases by the act of November session, seventeen hundred and ninety-eight, chapter one hundred and eight, shall be received as evidence in any court of justice of this state.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Ellicott, from the committee, delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act to incorporate companies to make several turnpike roads through Baltimore county, and for other purposes; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, ORDERED, That the printer to the state strike one hundred copies of the said bill for the use of the legislature.

Mr. Stephen, from the committee, delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to alter, change and abolish, all such parts of the constitution and form of government as establish religious tests as a qualification for civil offices; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Mercer, from the committee, delivers to the speaker a bill, 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.

The bill, entitled, An act to change the names of Jacob Sedgwick, Matthias Sedgwick, George Sedgwick and Christian Sedgwick, to the names of Jacob Adreon, Matthias Adreon, George Adreon and Christian Adreon, was read the second time and passed.

Mr. Watts, from the committee, delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to provide for the election of the governor by the people, and to abolish all those parts of the constitution and form of government which relate to the council to the governor, and the time and manner of electing the governor, and for other purposes; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Cox, from the committee, delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of John Carnahan and Abraham Pennington, insolvent debtors, of Cæcil county; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act for the regulation of officers fees, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned. ORDERED, That Mr. Watts, Mr. Chapman, Mr. M'Pherson, Mr. Stephen and Mr. Van-Horn, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On motion, ORDERED, That the bill, entitled, An act for the encouragement of learning in this state, and for other purposes therein mentioned, be recommitted for amendment.

The following resolution was propounded to the house.

Whereas it hath appeared by the journal of the proceedings of his excellency the governor and honourable council of this state, during the last year, as exhibited to this house on the — day of —, that during the whole term of said year, the honourable Richard H. Harwood attended in council 99 days, the honourable Allen B. Duckett 91 days, the honourable Reverdy Ghiselin 76 days, the honourable Francis Digges 36 days, and the honourable Richard T. Earle 15 days; therefore RESOLVED, That each and every member of the council to the governor for the ensuing year, shall be and they are hereby subjected to forfeit two dollars and fifty cents for each and every day's non-attendance, when the council is in session, to be deducted from their next quarter's salary, and that all sums of money paid for expresses sent for any member or members of the council, to be deducted from his or their next quarter's salary, and remain in the treasury for the use of the state; which deduction shall be made by the treasurer of the western shore, according to a statement to be made out by the governor and council, which statement, specifying the number of days each member may have been absent and the amount of expences for expresses, the clerk aforesaid is hereby authorised and required to furnish the treasurer of the western shore with quarterly.

Which was read.