

On motion by Mr. Millis, the bill reported by him, entitled, An act relating to the public roads in Talbot county, was recommended to the committee that reported it for the purpose of amendment

On motion by Mr. Montgomery, it was Ordered, That the bill reported by Mr. Thomas of Cecil, entitled, An act for the benefit of fishermen at the head of the Chesapeake bay, be recommended to the committee who reported it, for their further consideration.

Mr. Lee submitted the following preamble and resolution for consideration; which were read the first time and ordered to lie on the table, viz.

Whereas the prosperity of this state is deeply interested in the completion of the road from Washington city to Cumberland, by securing it as the great leading route through this state, from the seat of the general government to the Ohio; and the resources of the stockholders in the company authorising a turnpike road from Washington city to Frederick town, being represented as inadequate to the execution of that part of the road yet unfinished; therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the treasurer of the western shore be authorised to subscribe to said road the sum of twenty thousand dollars, out of any unappropriated money now in the treasury; provided the board of public works shall certify to the said treasurer, on or before the 10th of May next, that an adequate sum, (together with such twenty thousand dollars.) shall have been subscribed to secure the completion of said road.

Mr. Steuart, of Baltimore, chairman of the committee therein mentioned, delivered the following report; which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table, viz.

The committee on crimes and punishments, to whom was referred the petition of the superintendants of the mechanical branches of the penitentiary, praying for an increase of salaries; beg leave to report—That the committee has had this case under consideration, and are inclined to think, that the petitioners may be entitled to some additional pay, in consideration of their usefulness in their several mechanical branches, in which they are employed as instructors and superintendants; but in the present depressed state of the treasury, it is impossible to grant them any relief, more especially, when it has been found necessary to recommend that the state treasury should be relieved from the annual charge hitherto borne for the support of the penitentiary, and to throw that burthen on the institution. The committee are of opinion, that the directors of the institution ought to have a discretionary power to increase the annual pay of the petitioners for meritorious conduct, (not exceeding twenty per cent on their established salaries,) whenever the improved state of the institution shall justify the hope that it can support itself, without being any charge to the state.

Respectfully submitted,

By order,

J. S. Smith, Com. Clk.