

on the return in such cases, shall be admitted to a seat as a delegate.

Also, the memorial of Robert W. Swan and others, of Somerset county, on the subject of slaves, free negroes, and mulattoes.

Mr. Winder presented the memorial of William Whayland and others, of Somerset county;

Also, the memorial of Matthias Dashiell and others, citizens of Somerset county, relative to the black population of this state.

Mr. Cottman presented the memorial of John D. Adams, and others, of Somerset county;

And Mr. McKinstrey presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Frederick county; severally praying the attention of the legislature to the subject of the coloured population of this state;

Which were severally read and referred to the committee on grievances and courts of justice.

Mr. Handy presented the petition of Elizabeth Harper, widow of Samuel Harper;

Also, the petition of Priscilla Connelly, widow of William Connelly, (revolutionary soldiers) severally praying to be placed on the pension roll;

And Mr. Stevens presented the petition of Ann Spedden, of Talbot county, widow of Robert Spedden, a revolutionary soldier, praying for a pension;

Which were severally read, and referred to the committee on pensions and revolutionary claims.

Mr. Pearce presented the petition of sundry citizens of Kent county, praying the passage of an act, for the more effectual protection of the beds of oysters in this state; which was read and referred to the committee already appointed on that subject.

Mr. Heard presented the petition of Joseph Stone, of St. Mary's county, praying to be allowed further time to collect the fees due William Williams, late sheriff of said county, which was read and referred to Messrs. Heard, Sothoron and Brawner.

And Mr. Kent presented the petition of Mary Pearce, of Anne Arundel county, praying to be placed on the pension list of said county; which was read and referred to Messrs. Kent, Stockett and Hood.

The speaker laid before the house, a letter from Macall M. Rasin, Esq. which was read, and is as follows:

Annapolis, January 23d, 1832.

SIR:—I beg leave to inform you, that my long absence