

Washington College, was read, praying that the bill might be rejected, or that they might be heard by counsel at the bar of the House.—On the 19th the business was again taken up, when several resolutions were proposed declaring the necessity of the State's preserving its faith, and asserting the rights of the University in its corporate capacity, conformable to the spirit of the memorial, all of which were postponed by the previous question.—The next day, however, when the question was put on the bill, it received a negative by a majority of 40 against 24.

We now come to a subject which has been thought by many to be intimately connected with this, as they were both in a manner originated and supported by the same person.—I mean the bill for the support of the Clergy.

Some debates took place on the 18th respecting the consideration of this bill, which many members were desirous of bringing on immediately, while those who had been, and were still its advocates, were anxious to have it postponed.

It was contended that the most proper time for its discussion, was at that period, when they might best collect the sense of the State, from the unusual fullness of the House; whereas delay, by lessening the numbers, might occasion a determination, very contrary to the general voice of the people: Accordingly the next day was appointed for taking the subject into consideration.

There are few transactions, that have excited the attention of the public more than this.

An attempt was made to bring in a bill for this purpose in the preceding session, when its promoters and friends, finding it impracticable to make it go down at that time, it was published for the consideration of the people.

I believe it may be safely affirmed that a great majority throughout the State were averse to the passing of such a law; some remonstrances against it were presented to the House, and many were withheld from an opinion that they were unnecessary, for the greater part of the House appeared so decidedly against the measure, even before the day appointed for its discussion, that very little hopes were entertained by the other party of its being adopted.

Hopeless as they were, however, they were not disposed to yield without a combat.