

On motion of Mr. Buchanan,

Ordered, That a select committee, composed of five persons be appointed by the speaker, to ascertain whether any contract has been entered into for the printing of the present House of Delegates, and if any, whether said contract is in accordance with law, and further, whether the printing of the last session has been performed agreeably to contract, and that said committee have leave to report to this house, by bill or otherwise, with as little delay as possible.

Whereupon, Messrs. Buchanan, Starr, Causin, Carmichael and Duke were appointed said committee.

On motion of Mr. Presstman,

Leave was granted to Messrs. Presstman, Graves, Tuck, Biser and Gittings to introduce a bill to compel a resumption of specie payments by the banks, and to provide against future suspensions by the banking institutions of this State.

On motion of Mr. Schley,

Leave was granted to withdraw from the files of the last session, the papers of Walter B. Kemp, praying for the benefit of the insolvent laws.

Mr. Ristean submitted the following order:

Ordered, That the select committee appointed to report a bill for the resumption of specie payments by the banks, correspond with all the banks in the State, upon that subject, with a view to a resumption as soon as the public interest may require.

Which was read,

Before the question was put,

Messrs. Geyer and Gittings, the gentlemen appointed on the part of this house from the joint committee to wait on his Excellency the Governor and inform him that the house is ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make, returned and reported that his Excellency would present his annual message, this day at 1 o'clock.

The clerk of the senate then delivered the following message:

*By the Senate,*

*December 29th, 1841.*

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,*

We have received your message proposing the appointment of a joint committee to wait upon his Excellency the Governor, and inform him that the General Assembly is prepared to receive any communication he may be pleased to make, and concur therein. We have appointed Messrs. Maulsby and Palmer, to join the gentlemen named by your honorable body.

By order,

Jos. H. Nicholson, Cl'k.

The Secretary of State then delivered the following message from the Executive.

[See Document A.]

Which was read.