

MONDAY, December 9th, 1861.

J. W. Rider, Committee Clerk, appeared, qualified, and entered upon the discharge of his duties.

The President announced the following Standing Committee on Federal Relations :

Messrs. Goldsborough, Smith, Firey, Briscoe, Billingsley.

A communication was received from His Excellency, Gov. Hicks, by the hands of G. W. Jefferson, Private Secretary ; which,

On motion of Mr. Goldsborough, of Dorchester,

Was read, and,

On motion of Mr. Smith,

Was referred to the committee on Federal Relations.

Mr. Waters, from the select committee to which was referred the bill entitled, An act to authorise the commissioners of Montgomery county to raise money for the purpose of building a jail, reported it without amendment.

The bill was then read the second time.

On motion of Mr. Briscoe,

The following communication was entered upon the Journal :

*To the Honorable, the President of the Senate of Maryland :*

I transmit, through you, to the Senate, a statement of the reasons why my chair in the Senate of Maryland is vacant, and why the wealthy and populous county of Baltimore is without a Representative in one branch of our State Legislature.

On the 13th of September last I was arrested at my residence in Baltimore county by an armed force ; no warrant exhibited, and without color of law. After I was taken into custody, in company with other gentlemen who were at that time Members of the Legislature, but whose official existence terminated with the election last month, I was taken to Fort McHenry, thence to Fortress Monroe, thence to Fort Lafayette; and afterwards to Fort Warren, in Boston Harbor, at which last place I am now confined. I do not think the annals of Free Government present a parallel case, and I am still more certain that no Senator could ever present reasons more strange for his non-attendance and non-performance of his official duties.