

WEDNESDAY, December 3, 1823.

The house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. Pitt presents a petition from Greenbury L. Raleigh, praying a special act of insolvency; read and referred to Messrs. Pitt, Willis, and Hutson.

Mr. Whiteford presents a petition from John Watkin and Benjamin M'Creery, praying commissioners may be appointed to assess damages sustained by them in consequence of a road running through their land; read and referred to Messrs. Whiteford, Steel and Sewell.

Mr. Gerry presents a petition from Uriah Blackburn, of Cecil county, praying a special act of insolvency; read and referred to Messrs. Gerry, Henderson, and Bryan.

On motion by Mr. Semmes, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, an act to incorporate the Chesapeake and Ohio canal company; ordered that Messrs. Semmes, Fenwick, W. Stewart, Merrick, Edelen, Hopper, M'Mahon, Riley, and Chesley, report the same.

The speaker announced the following committees:

*Committee of Elections and Privileges.*—Messrs. Chesley, Garner, Bruce, Norris, Douglass, Ireland, and Martin.

*Committee of Claims.*—Messrs. Kemp, Veconiken, Sewell, Riley, Edelen, Howard & Gerry.

*Committee of Ways and Means.*—Messrs. Semmes, Merrick, Sprigg, Johnson, Dennis, Pitt, and W. Stewart.

*Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice.*—Messrs. Loockerman, Kilgour, Hopper, M'Mahon, and E. B. Duvall.

*On Pensions and Revolutionary Claims.*—Messrs. Weems, Rogerson, Peter, Jones, and Slemaker.

Mr. Carroll delivers the following report.

The Committee appointed to report the rules proper to be observed during this session, beg leave to submit the following:

1. At the hour appointed for sitting, the roll of the House shall be called for, and the absent members, if any, sent for.
2. Every member shall take his seat when the speaker takes his chair.
3. Every member who shall deliver his opinion, or speak in any debate, shall rise uncovered, in his place, and respectfully address himself to the Speaker or Chairman, as it may be.
4. No member, at the time of speaking in debate, shall name any other by his proper name, but shall use some other distinction.
5. If two or more members shall rise to speak at the same time, the Speaker shall determine which shall speak first.
6. No member shall speak a second time, until every member who offers to deliver his sentiments has spoken once, and no member shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the house.
7. Any member called to order, by the Speaker, or by any member, shall thereupon take his seat.
8. When the house is sitting, no member shall hold conversation to interrupt debate.
9. No motion shall be debated until the same be seconded, and (if desired by the Speaker or or any member) reduced to writing, delivered in at the table, and read by the clerk.
10. When a motion is made and seconded, the matter of the motion shall receive a determination by the question, or be postponed by a motion for commitment or postponement, or by the previous question, before any other motion shall be received.
11. Every question shall be entered on the journal, and the yeas and nays shall be taken when required by three members who shall have divided on the question.
12. The previous question, (that is, whether the question propounded be now put,) may be called for by any member, or any question, except to an amendment, or other matter which cannot in its nature be postponed; and if the previous question be determined in the affirmative, the main question shall immediately be put by the Speaker.
13. If a question in debate contains more distinct parts than one, any member may of right have the same divided into as many questions as parts, and when an amendment shall be proposed to an amendment, the question on the last amendment shall be taken first, and then divided, if required, into as many parts as it will admit of questions.
14. All questions shall be determined by a majority of the members present, those dividing in the affirmative rising in their places, those in the negative continuing in their seats, and so, vice versa, until a decision by the Speaker.
15. When the Speaker shall decide any question, the same shall be final, unless the yeas and nays be required.
16. The Speaker shall from time to time, as it may suit his own convenience, have the privilege of calling any other member to the chair.
17. Every bill or resolution, originating in this house, or received from the Senate, shall be read on two several days, with an intermission of one day at least, during which time it shall lie on the table for the perusal of the members, unless on very urgent occasions, the house, shall, by special order, dispense with this rule; which order shall be entered on the journal.
18. Conferrees and members appointed on draughts, if required by three members, shall be elected by ballot, and the number in no case shall exceed seven.
19. No bill or resolve shall have a second reading until every member in the city be called upon to attend, except he be excused by the house for indisposition or necessary attendance on public business.
20. No petition, memorial, or other application to the house, shall be received unless presented by a member.