

Mr. Johnson from the committee to whom was referred the bill for the benefit of Uriah Blackburn, of Cecil county, reported the same with the following amendments, viz:

Amendments proposed.

Strike out all that follows in the preamble after the word "whereas" in the first line and insert,

"It appears probable from the petition of Uriah Blackburn, of Cecil county, that a verdict was rendered against him in Cecil county court, on allegations filed against him by one Jehu Blackburn, because of his not being able to procure the attendance of the witness, by whose testimony he could have established his defence, and the court having no author to grant a new trial: Therefore, strike out the whole of the section after the enacting clause, and insert

"That the judges of Cecil county court, be, and they are hereby authorised at the next term of said court, to grant a new trial in the case of the allegations filed in said court, against said Uriah Blackburn, by Jehu Blackburn.

And be it enacted, That any one of the judges of the said county court, or any judge of the orphans' court of said county be, and he is hereby authorised to order a discharge of the said Uriah Blackburn from the imprisonment he suffers by reason of the verdict against him on the allegations mentioned in the preceding section, provided he gives bond in double the amount of the debts appearing due by his schedule, with good and sufficient security to be approved of by such judge, to make his personal appearance before Cecil county court, at the term of said court next after the date of such bond; to answer any allegations which may be filed against him by any of his creditors, and to abide any order or judgment of said court in relation to such allegations; such bond to be filed among the papers relating to the application of said Uriah Blackburn for the benefit of the insolvent laws, now pending in said county court, and a copy of such bond under the seal of said county court shall be as good and competent evidence in any court in this state as the original would be if produced and proved.

Which amendments with the bill were read and laid on the table.

The bill to authorise the courts of this state to grant divorces; was read a second time. On motion the question was put, "shall the bill lie on the table?" Determined in the negative.

Mr. Chambers moved to refer the bill to the 1st day of June next, and after some discussion, the senate adjourned until to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1824.

The Senate met. Present the same Members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Bowie appeared in the senate.

The senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill to authorise the courts of this state to grant divorces, the motion before the senate being to refer the bill to the first day of June next, and after some discussion, the question was put, and determined in the affirmative.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivered a bill entitled, an act relating to gates on the public roads in Caroline county; which was read the first time and laid on the table. Also a bill entitled, an act to repeal the act of assembly therein mentioned; which was read the first time and laid on the table. Also a bill entitled, an act authorising gates to be kept on the public roads in Queen Ann's county; which was read the first time and referred to Messrs Orrell, Chambers and Dickinson. Also a bill entitled, an act to incorporate the town of William's Port, in Washington county; which was read the first time, and referred to Messrs Price, Kent and Orrell.

The bill for the relief of Samuel Meeds, of Queen Ann's county, was read a second time and laid on the table.

The supplement to the act to regulate the manner of obtaining and altering public roads in this state, was read a second time and laid on the table.

Mr. Price from the committee to whom was referred the bill for the benefit of the infant children and heirs at law of Jesse H. Wainwright, late of Somerset county, reported the same with the following amendment, viz. In the 6th line of the 2nd section after the word "money," insert "of that part of the estate to which her right of dower shall have been released" Which amendment was read and assented to, and the bill being read as amended, a second and by special order a third time, was passed and returned to the house of delegates.

Mr. Cockey from the committee to whom was referred the bill for the relief of Malachy Craddock, of Frederick county, reported that the committee had had the same under consideration, and were of opinion that it ought to pass. Which report was concurred in. The bill was then read a second and by special order a third time, amended, passed and returned to the house of delegates.

Mr. Miller presented the following report; which was read.

The committee appointed on the part of the senate to visit and inspect the Penitentiary in conjunction with the one from the house of delegates, beg leave to report, that they have procured such testimony as they deemed necessary to guide their investigation, and have caused the same to be reduced to writing, which is herewith submitted for the information of the senate. That, after bestowing on the subject the consideration which the interest it had excited and the importance of the institution demanded, they conceive the vast capacities and importance of the institution to the welfare of the public, have not been sufficiently recognized by the legislature.

It would appear that impressions highly erroneous have been disseminated through the state relative to its capacity and success in attaining the objects of this institution, in comparison with other and former plans of executing the criminal code. This, as already realized, seems