

The report on the petition of Matthias Miles, was read the second time and concurred with.

Mr. Sherwood, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of James Lawrance, late a marine in the service of this state, report, that they have taken the same into their consideration, and are of opinion that the prayer thereof ought not to be granted. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Hopewell brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act for the speedy conveyance of public letters and packets, and for other purposes; which was read the first and second time by especial order and passed.

Mr. Seney, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the memorial of the religious society of people called Quakers, and sundry other memorials respecting slaves, beg leave to report, that the memorialists appear to have two objects in view, in neither of which they ought to be gratified. The first and principal one is, to obtain a prohibition, by the legislature, against the exportation of slaves; and the second, to render more effectual the 5th section of the act of last session, to prevent the exportation of free negroes, &c.

The committee cannot conceive, that while our citizens continue to hold a property in their slaves, recognised by law, and secured by the constitution, the prohibition alluded to can warrantably exist; nor can they suppose that justice or policy requires such an interference with the rights of the community. The committee are of opinion, that the act of the last session above referred to, though in practice its provisions, like all other regulations, may sometimes be evaded, cannot be advantageously amended. The penalty inflicted on the forcible or fraudulent exporter there described, is already sufficiently severe, and if offences against it are not always capable of detection, the fault is not attributable to the law. The committee cannot forbear suggesting, that, in their opinion, applications, such as the present, instead of conducing to meliorate the situation of those whose cause they advocate, have an effect unfortunately the reverse, by tending to destroy that spirit of acquiescence among our slaves, by which alone their happiness can be secured, and to inspire them with regret and anxiety for evils that do not admit a remedy. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

N. PINKNEY, clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Goldsborough, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to empower the vestry of Great Choptank parish to sell or apply the materials of the old church in said parish to the building a new church in Cambridge, and for other purposes therein mentioned; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Key, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Thomas Beatty, late collector of the taxes in Frederick county, report, that they have examined the prayer of the said petition, and are of opinion the same ought not to be granted.

By order,

N. PINKNEY, clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Key, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of George Devilbiss, of Frederick county, report, that they have examined the prayer of said petition, and are of opinion that this house ought to pass a resolution, directing and empowering the register of the land-office to issue a land warrant to the said George Devilbiss to the amount of sixteen pounds five shillings.

By order,

N. PINKNEY, clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Mercer, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry subscribers living in and near the neighbourhood of South river, in Anne-Arundel county, report, that they have examined the facts therein stated, and are of opinion that the prayer of the petition ought to be granted, and that an act ought to pass, authorising and directing the county magistrates of Anne-Arundel to provide for the erection of a warehouse at Beard's point, formerly called Howard's point. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

N. PINKNEY, clk.

Which was read.

RESOLVED, That the register of the land-office be and he is hereby authorised and directed to issue a land warrant to George Devilbiss, of Frederick county, to the amount of sixteen pounds five shillings, in lieu of so much paid into the treasury for improvements on land supposed vacant, which was included in an elder survey.

The bill for the benefit of Charles Worthington, was read the second time, and the question put, That the said bill do pass? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Emory, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.

Members	Carroll,	Hawkins,	Miller,	O'Bryon,	P. Smith,	Oneale,
	Thomas,	M'Pherson,	R. Bond,	Barnes,	Burkhart,	Crab,
	T. Bond,	Cockey,	Hollingsworth,	Dennis,	Love,	Turner,
	R. Harwood,	Kerr,	Oldham,	Holland,	Wilson,	Beall,
	Mercer,	Tilghman,	T. Marshall,	J. P. Marshall,	Lockerman,	Cresap,
	Chestley,	Waggaman,	Quynn,	Key,	Clagett,	Tomlinson,
T. Gaunt, jun.	Lecompte,	Seney,	Beatty,	Swearingen,	Jacob.	43.