

of this Legislature to the 10th of March, report upon the same on or before Thursday next;

Mr. Graves moved to lay the order on the table;

Before the question was taken,

On motion of Mr. Spencer,

The House was called and the door-keeper sent after the absent members:

On motion of Mr. Mason,

The house proceeded with the ordinary business of the session, in the absence of the door-keeper.

On motion of Mr. Owens,

Ordered, That the committee on internal improvements be directed to inquire of the President of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company; of the President of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company; of the President of the Susquehanna Rail Road Company, and of the President of the Eastern Shore Rail Road Company;

1st. The number of officers employed since the 1st January 1835, and the number of officers now in the employ of said companies, with tables, annexed of the salaries of said officers for the several years of 1835, 1836, 1837, 1838 and 1839;

2d. What officers of said companies have received extra allowances, and what amount has been paid or stipulated to be paid, and to what individuals;

The clerk of the Senate delivered the following messages:

*By the Senate, January 18th, 1840.*

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates:*

We herewith return to your Honorable body, the bill entitled, an act to authorise Catharine L. Cook, to convey certain lands in Columbia county, in the state of Pennsylvania. The prayer of the petitioner sets forth, that she is an infant, under the age of twenty-one, and the act proposes to authorise the said petitioner to execute a conveyance for certain lands lying in the State of Pennsylvania. Each state has the right to enact such statutory provisions in relation to the conveyance of real estate within its territorial limits, as it may judge safe and proper, and however questionable the propriety may be of passing any law, to authorise infants to convey real estate, the exercise of such power by our State Legislature, over lands lying in a different State, would in itself be nugatory. Believing therefore that the relief intended to be afforded, should if granted at all, be extended by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, the Senate have rejected the said bill.

By order,

Joseph H. Nicholson, Cl'k.

*By the Senate, January 17, 1840.*

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates:*

We herewith return to your Honorable body, the bill entitled, "an act for the relief of Henry Bussard"—The Senate have re-