

On motion of Mr. Martin,

The house reconsidered the vote on the adoption of the order offered by him on Thursday last in reference to the election of the Treasurer for the Western and Eastern Shore.

Mr. Martin then asked and obtained leave to withdraw the same.

On motion of Mr. Sprigg,

Ordered, That the Speaker be requested to enquire of Wm. Shipley, Jr., a Committee Clerk to this House, whether an article, relating to two members of this House, which appeared in the Carroll County Democrat of the 30th ult. was inserted by him, or with his knowledge and direction.

On motion of Mr. Spencer,

Ordered, That it be entered on the journal, that there being no business before the house ready for its consideration, and there being matters of much importance to occupy the consideration of the different committees of this house, it stand adjourned until to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

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TUESDAY, February 4th, 1840.

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

The bill entitled, an act to incorporate the Friendship Academy in Anne Arundel county;

Was sent to the senate.

The speaker laid before the house the following correspondence, in obedience to the order adopted on yesterday.

*House of Delegates, February 3rd, 1840.*

To William Shipley, Jr. committee clerk—

Sir: I have been directed by an order this day adopted by the House of Delegates, to inquire of you whether an article relating to two members of this house, which appeared in the Carroll county Democrat of the 30th ult., was inserted by you or with your knowledge and direction. You will answer this enquiry without unnecessary delay, and in writing.

JAMES W. WILLIAMS,

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

To the Hon. James W. Williams,

Speaker of the House of Delegates,—

Sir: In reply to your note of yesterday, I have to state, that I am not the author of the articles published in "the Democrat and Carroll County Republican" of the 30th ult., and that they were not inserted with my knowledge or direction. In saying this, I do not design to admit any right of inquiry, which may be inconsistent with my rights as an Editor, or which may in the slightest degree trespass on the freest liberty of the press; but I should