

Which was read the first time.

On motion of Mr. Ricaud,

Leave was granted Messrs. Ricaud, Tome and Carroll, to report a bill entitled, "An Act to repeal the 12th section of An Act to incorporate the Kent County Railroad Company, passed on the 8th March, 1856, chapter 148, to add four new sections thereto, and to appoint four new commissioners in the place of four deceased commissioners;"

Mr. Willis reported the following resolution:

WHEREAS, to save the blood and treasure of the country, and to secure the peace, prosperity and happiness of the people, in their social, civil, religious and political rights; in the improvement of art, science and literature; in the development of our mechanical, agricultural and mineral resources; in wealth, trade and commerce, and a friendly intercourse with all nations of the earth,

*Therefore, be it resolved, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That we invite the President and Congress of the United States, and all in authority, to do all in their power to compensate loyal owners for their manumitted slaves; that it will finally and forever settle the secession and negro questions, out of which so many evils to our country have grown, as the most just and wisest plan that the human mind can devise. By doing this we shall confuse the ideas of European aristocrats, who have predicted our destruction in this war, and show to the world that we are a nation of free white men, who can overcome our prejudices, and survive the causes that have produced the national death of other republics.

Which were read and referred to Messrs. Willis, Ohr and Briscoe.

Mr. Bayne reported the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, it is known there are at this time in the District of Columbia and in Alexandria, and its vicinity many thousand fugitive slaves who have escaped from Maryland, and who have thus far obtained exemption from enrolment and the draft.

*Resolved,* therefore, that our Senators and Representatives in Congress be instructed by this Legislature to pass some bill if practicable, to encourage the enlistment of said slaves into the United State' army, or to confer with the proper authorities if more expedient for the adoption of some plan which will accomplish that object, and afford the loyal citizens of Maryland, who are the owners of the same, an opportunity to