

have said door-way made, and that the committee on claims allow such compensation for the same as may be proper and just.

Which was read the first, and by special order the second time and concurred in.

Mr. Bowie, chairman of the select committee on certain memorials, praying the repeal of an act, limiting the time for which tobacco inspectors shall continue to hold their offices, delivered the following report:

The select committee to whom were referred the several memorials from sundry citizens of Prince George's county, and other citizens of the State, praying the repeal of an act passed at the last session of the General Assembly, limiting the time for which Tobacco Inspectors in the city of Baltimore shall continue to hold their offices, beg leave respectfully to Report,

That they have had the said memorials under consideration, and have come to the conclusion that the prayer of the memorialists ought to be granted. Your committee are of opinion that it is inexpedient for the Legislature, if not beyond their constitutional powers, to prescribe by legislative enactments any citizens of this State from holding any office to which they may be called by the executive department of the government, in the exercise of a clearly constitutional prerogative. To the Executive has been confided by the Constitution the power of appointment to office, and in the exercise of that power they must necessarily possess a discretion which cannot be trammelled by legislative interposition, without manifest danger of an entire destruction of that union and order which is so essentially necessary to a sound administration of the government.

Your committee believe that fidelity in the discharge of official duties is one of the surest guarantees for public protection, and whilst the best interest of the public imperiously requires that the faithless and dishonest should receive no favor at the hands of the appointing power of the government, yet on the other hand the public safety demands that faithful, efficient and well tried public servants should not be removed for slight and frivolous causes. But when the Legislature undertake to pass laws by which certain citizens of the State are removed from offices to which they have been properly appointed, without any complaint or charge being preferred against them, and without even affording to them the benefit of a hearing in their own defence, your committee think they discover in such a course a violation of the constitutional right of the citizen, and the infliction of oppressive and grievous wrongs wholly at war with all our republican institutions.

Your committee therefore beg leave to report the following bill.

THOMAS F. BOWIE, Chairman.

Which was read the first time;

And reported a bill, entitled, an act supplementary to an act, entitled, an act to limit the time for which Tobacco Inspectors shall continue to hold their offices, passed at December session, 1836,

Which was read the first time,