

Which was read the first and second time by special order, assented to, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Emory delivers a petition from James Brown, and James Butcher, of Queen-Anne's county, praying to be exonerated from a certain debt as securities for the collector of said county, which was read and referred to Messrs. Emory, Burgess and Little.

Mr. Sanders delivers the following report :

THE Committee of grievances and courts of justice, report, That the attention of your committee has been called to a charge of neglect of duty on the part of the chief judge of the third judicial district of this state. Your committee would remark that by the first section of the act of assembly passed at November session eighteen hundred and six, chapter fifty-five, it is enacted, "that in any suit in the chancery court in which the chancellor for the time being, may have been counsel, or have given his opinion, and on that account may conceive that he cannot conscientiously act thereon, and shall so certify in writing, the same shall be heard and determined by the chief judge of the third judicial district, or by the court thereof at the election of the complainant." A representation has been made to your committee by Thomas Contee Worthington, Esq. that a case of his as executor of Thomas Contee, against Richard Crandell, is one of those cases, in which the present chancellor was (previous to his appointment) retained as counsel to the complainant, and has therefore declined to act therein; that the chief judge of the third judicial district of Maryland has declined acting on the above case, to the injury of the above named Thomas C. Worthington. In the representation of the said Thomas Contee Worthington to your committee, they are referred for proof of the allegations therein contained, to Alexander C. Magruder, Esq. solicitor for the complainant in the above case. Your committee would remark, that they heard the testimony of the said Alexander C. Magruder relative to the above mentioned case, and are satisfied from said testimony, that no just cause of complaint exists against the said judge of the third judicial district; it does not appear to your committee that the papers were ever laid before the chief judge of the third judicial district; and from the view which your committee have taken of the case, they are under the impression that the said case is actually not in a situation to be acted on by the said chief judge. In the opinion of your committee, the said chief judge stands wholly acquitted of the charge of neglect of duty in the case referred to. Your committee (in compliance with the wishes of the said chief judge) take the liberty of submitting to the house his representation, as a part of their report, which would throw some light on this and other subjects connected with the administration of justice.

"Having been apprized by an honorable member of the committee of grievances and courts of justice, of a complaint before the said committee exhibited against me by Mr.