

nal court of Baltimore, considering the character of the person on whom the offence was committed, is high; but as the power of imposing fines in such cases is vested in the discretion of the court, the committee cannot think, from any testimony before them, the court was governed by any improper motives; on this subject also, the committee have received written communications from the chief justice of the criminal court of Baltimore, to which they beg leave to refer the house.

The committee are also of opinion, that the offence committed by the petitioner, and for which the said fine was imposed, although not to be justified upon principles of law, did not originate from any vicious or oppressive disposition in the petitioner, but arose from an erroneous and mistaken conception of the law, and was not by any means atrocious. But in as much as the governor and council have the power by law of remitting fines in cases of great and unusual hardship, the committee are of opinion the legislature ought in no case to interfere where there is other competent authority existing by law to grant relief in cases similar to the present. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Dennis, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the trial of facts in the several counties where they arise, and for the better administration of justice in this state; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

ORDERED, That the said bill have a second reading on Monday next.

Mr. Sprigg, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to continue the acts of assembly therein mentioned; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. M'Pherson, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Anne Dent and Theodore Dent, administrators of Peter Dent, late of Charles county, deceased; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, A Further additional supplement to an act, entitled, An act to provide for the appointment of commissioners for the regulation and improvement of Easton, in Talbot county, and to establish and regulate a market at the said town. ORDERED, That Mr. Goldsborough, Mr. Cox and Mr. Kerr, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Goldsborough, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the said bill; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Gordon, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act to provide for the appointment of commissioners for the regulation and improvement of Cambridge; in Dorchester county, and to establish and regulate a market in said town; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Ridgely, of Wm. from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of Baltimore-town and county, praying for a law to prohibit certain persons, residing within five miles of said town, from driving any waggons or carts on the public roads, unless the felloes of the wheels are of the breadth or gauge of four inches, report, that they have taken the same into consideration, and are of opinion the prayer thereof ought not to be granted. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

C. WAYMAN, clk.

Which was read the first and second time and concurred with.

On motion, ORDERED, That the act relating to public roads in this state, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned, have a second reading on Monday next.

The report on the petition of George Timmons, was read the second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Purnell, Mr. Dennis and Mr. Whittington, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

RESOLVED, That during the remainder of the present session of assembly this house will sit from nine o'clock in the morning till three in the afternoon, and from five o'clock in the afternoon till eight o'clock at night.

The report on the petition of Daniel and Samuel Hughes, was read the second time, and the question put, That the house concur therewith? Resolved in the affirmative, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Johnson, Mr. Van Lear and Mr. Beatty, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Whereas Talbot Shipley, of Anne-Arundel county, hath, in a petition to this general assembly, set forth as follows, to wit: That whereas, by virtue of an act of assembly, passed at November session, seventeen hundred and ninety-one, chapter fifty-three, entitled, An act to lay out certain roads in Anne-Arundel and Montgomery counties, and also by virtue of another act of assembly, passed at November session, seventeen hundred and ninety-two, chapter thirty-five, entitled, An act to establish the road from Baltimore-town towards Frederick-town, by Ellicott's upper mills, as far as the Poplar Spring, as a public road, and for other purposes therein mentioned, and also by virtue of another act of assembly, passed at November session, seventeen hundred and ninety-two, chapter eighteen, entitled, An act to lay open a road to and from the mill of Benjamin Lawrence and Elias Dorsey, on the western forks of Patapsco falls, the commissioners, by the aforesaid respective acts of assembly appointed for the purpose of laying out the said roads, have marked, bounded and established, all the said public roads over the land of your petitioner, so that your petitioner is now subjected to the inconvenience and expence of maintaining three public roads, in fact, all leading through his land, from Baltimore to Frederick-town, whereby his farm is greatly divided and cut to pieces, with