

senior, praying the passage of an act for the benefit of the heirs of Mary Bucknell; which was read and referred to Messrs. Ely, Chapman and Turner.

The clerk of the senate returned the bill, entitled, An act to distribute the school fund of Montgomery county, endorsed "will pass with the proposed amendments;" which amendments were severally read the first, and by special order the second time, assented to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

Also the resolution in favour of William Winchester; also the resolution directing the clerks of the senate and house of delegates to deliver to the state librarian the manuscript votes and proceedings of the several legislatures of the province and state of Maryland, in the committee rooms, severally endorsed "assented to." Ordered to be engrossed. And delivered the following messages:

By the Senate,

February 24, 1831.

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,

The senate have received your message, and in compliance with your request have re-considered the bill, entitled, An act to distribute the school funds of Montgomery county, and have amended and passed it. The senate feel anxious to diffuse the blessings of education as generally as possible throughout the community, and solicitous to carry into effect the enlightened and just policy of the legislature upon this subject, it would be most gratifying to every lover of his country to witness the establishment of schools throughout every district of the state, so that the children of the indigent might participate in their advantages—that the "growing up population" might be enlightened—made acquainted with their own importance, and their rights in the community of which they are to become useful members. Believing that the diffusion of light and knowledge will promote the public happiness, and render durable the free institutions of the country, the senate regret the necessity that existed for the rejection of the bill referred to. The senate rejected the bill, as your honourable body is well aware, from no hostility to the general object—on the contrary many bills upon this subject had been passed, and it is believed not an instance has occurred of the rejection of such a bill by the senate containing proper provisions.

The senate rejected the bill in question because its provisions were most unusual, and in the opinion of the senate in conflict with the provisions of the general acts of the legis-