

MR. MORRIS'S REPORT.

The minority of the committee on internal improvement to which was referred the memorial of the Susquehanna Canal, and the counter report of Mr. James Bosley, respectfully report:

That in the year 1783, the legislature of Maryland "being strongly impressed with the general utility of the undertaking," incorporated a company called The Proprietors of the Susquehanna Canal, with authority to cut a canal at Love Island, and continue the same to tide water on the Susquehanna river. By act of 1799, chap. 17, the powers of this company were enlarged, and a loan of \$30,000 in specie granted by the state to the company.

The memorial of the proprietors of the Susquehanna states their undertaking has been completed with great individual exertion and by the expenditure of large sums of money; that the convenience of traders demands that arks and rafts passing through the canal should have some situation within the same where they can remain protected from the perils incident to the impetuosity of the river during the time occupied by the traders in making arrangements with purchasers for the sale of their commodities; that they soon discovered the necessity of some safe place of retreat, and they have for the accommodation of the public, constructed at great expense, three ponds or reservoirs, which they find altogether inadequate to gratify the exigences of the greatly increasing trade of the canal, through which is passed annually to the waters of the Chesapeake commodities to the value of several millions of dollars. That additional ponds are requisite for the convenience and accommodation of those who are in the habit of passing through the canal, and that they cannot be constructed unless the proprietors have the right to purchase more than two hundred acres of land, and they pray the legislature to extend to them this privilege.

That some safe place of retreat of sufficient capacity to gratify the demand, is essential to public convenience, the minority of the committee will not attempt to enforce by