

REPORT.

The Committee appointed at a meeting of the Stockholders of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, under a resolution passed on the 28th April, 1832, beg leave respectfully to report:

That your Committee was directed to take into consideration a resolution passed by the General Assembly of Maryland, recommending to the President and Directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company to call a public meeting of the Stockholders of said Company, and submit to their consideration the proposition of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, for the joint construction of the Canal and Railroad, aforesaid, from the Point of Rocks to Harper's Ferry. The various papers connected with this subject were likewise referred to the Committee, and have received its deliberate and full consideration.

A reference having been made in the resolution of the General Assembly of Maryland, to the gentleman who was to represent the stock of that State, for a more full exposition of the wishes and opinions of the Legislature of that State, upon this interesting and important subject, the Committee indulged the hope that, by reference to that gentleman, some precise and definite *project* of an arrangement might be obtained, which could be discussed in its details, and terminate in a manner satisfactory to the Legislature from which the proposition emanated. The language of the resolution expressed the hope that the object of it might be effected upon just and reasonable terms. It would have been desirable, could the Committee have ascertained what arrangement would have been satisfactory, and what terms would be deemed just and reasonable.

The terms of the proposition to which the attention of the Committee has been directed, are embodied in a resolution of the Railroad Company, under date of the 19th January, which will be found annexed to this report. It may be important to bring before the recollection of the Stockholders the details of this proposition. The President of the Rail Road Company was requested to communicate with the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, for the purpose of ascertaining from them whether any arrangement can be made, by which the Railroad may be constructed jointly with the Canal, as far as Harper's Ferry, on the north bank of the Potomac, with the view of crossing into Virginia at that place: and also, to arrange with the Canal Company such plan as will be mutually satisfactory, for crossing into Virginia at that place: and also, to arrange with the Canal Company, such plan as will be mutually satisfactory, for the passage of the Railroad across the Canal, either at Harper's Ferry, or at the Point of Rocks, should this last place be selected for crossing the Potomac with the Road.

It was further resolved, that the President be authorised to propose, as the basis of the arrangement by which the Rail Road may be constructed, jointly with the Canal, on the north side of the Potomac river as far as Harper's Ferry, the surveys heretofore made by Messrs. Roberts and Knight; and that he be authorised to propose that the whole of the additional expense incurred by the Canal Company, in consequence of such joint construction, be borne by the Railroad Company.

On the receipt of this communication by the Canal Company, it was referred to a Committee of three, which consisted of Messrs. John J. Abert, Walter Smith, and Phineas Janney. This Committee, after bestowing upon the subject their full consideration, on the 10th March, 1832, submitted their views, in the