

tion will not be settled, unless we permit that state to be sole arbiter and judge. We have sought for the mild and gentle mode of friendly arbitrament; Virginia has refused and asserts the right of being the sole judge in her own cause, a course of proceeding, it is believed, heretofore unknown in a matter of dispute between states, who sincerely desire a continuance of friendly relation; and which cannot be allowed by this state, as your committee believe, without loss of her reputation and dignity, which each member of the Legislature, ought to be careful to guard and protect.

2d. The part of the Executive message which relates to those boundaries, has no doubt grown out of the report and resolutions, passed by the Legislature of December session, 1831, which report and resolutions No. 128, may be found bound with the laws of that session. The same report and resolutions with a schedule of documents in the appendix, may also be found in the proceedings of the senate of that session. Your committee will abstain from reciting over again, the report, resolutions and papers so diligently collected during that session, but beg leave to solicit the members of both Branches, to give these papers a careful and thorough reading, as they are referred to as a part of this report. They collect and throw into one view the whole mass of facts as far as they were then known, to put this state in possession of the true ground of her claim and pretensions. This report, resolutions and papers in the appendix, were in due time transmitted by our Executive to the proper functionaries of Virginia, and without denying one single fact contained therein, and without any argument to confute or overturn any one of our positions, she has determined, it seems, by a solemn act of her Legislature, to close the door of negotiation upon us according to her own will and pleasure. Such arrogance ought not to mingle in negotiations between states, although they may be distant from each other, and without any affinity from political union, upon matters fairly in dispute, and has been received with surprise from a state, united with Maryland under the same general government.

3d. By the report of December session, 1831, this state determined that the southern and western limits of the country as defined by the original charter from the King of Great Britain to Lord Baltimore, ought to be the southern and western limits of this state, if viewed as a strict matter of right.

On the 6th day of may, 1776, the General Convention of Delegates and representatives, who framed the constitution