

Mr. Hudson, from the Committee on the State of the Republic, to whom was referred so much of the communication of His Excellency the Governor, which relates to the Act of Congress, approved the 23d day of June last, on the subject of a portion of the Revenue of the Federal Government, proposed to be deposited with the States,

REPORT:

That the subject referred to the consideration of your Committee, is one of embarrassment and complication. It is one that those who best understand the theory and practical operation of the Federal Government (it seems to your Committee,) could not have anticipated, nor its direct influence provided for in the sacred charter of compact which so happily unites these States together in a Federal Government, for certain specific purposes.

By the Act of Congress referred to, a certain portion of the Public Revenue is tendered to the several States, by the Federal Government of the Union, for their reception, at four specified times during the year of one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, on deposit, and the times at which said deposits are offered to be made with the States by the General Government, are clearly specified by the said Act of Congress, as before referred to. By referring to the first paragraph of the eighth section of the first article of the Constitution of the United States, it is declared, that "Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States," but no grant of power is given by which Congress has the delegated rights to lay and collect more revenue than the legitimate wants of the Federal Government may require for the specified purposes of its execution.

Your Committee, however, feel it to be their duty to state to the General Assembly, that if it could be ascertained, that the other States of this Union would not receive the proportion of the said revenue allotted to them, by the Act of Congress as aforesaid, that they would without hesitation recommend to the Legislature not to receive the proportion which may be allotted to Georgia. But as such precise information cannot be had during the session of the Legislature in time to be acted on, and it is now known that some of the States will receive their respective proportions of the said surplus revenue on the terms offered, and others may also receive their propor-