

# REPORT.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

*February 1, 1841.*

Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table, and 666 copies ordered to be printed

The select committee, to whom was referred so much of the Governor's message as relates to the Tobacco trade, ask leave to submit the following

## REPORT.

Your committee regret that they have not been able to examine the subject so fully as its importance required: they were unable to collect all the facts necessary to its full investigation. This is the more to be regretted, in consequence of his Excellency the Governor's not having had time to turn his attention to the examination of a subject so deeply interwoven with the interest of so large a portion of the people of the State, whose interests it is his duty to guard. Could his Excellency have been spared the time necessary to a proper examination of the subject, he might have imparted to it an interest and importance in some degree commensurate with its intrinsic merits—a service which the tobacco growers of the State had a right to expect at his hands. Indeed, the grievances which the history of this interest unfolds, should claim the attention of every one who feels, as he ought, for the welfare of our State.

The tobacco trade is one of great importance to every portion of our common country, as well as to Maryland, it being the most prominent staple, except cotton, which forms the export trade of our country with foreign nations at this time; and during our colonial condition, and until a few years ago, when the great impetus was given to the growth of cotton in the southern States, it formed the largest amount of any other ar-