

REPORT.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

February 16, 1841.

Read and 666 copies ordered to be printed.

The Committee of Internal Improvement, to whom was referred, among other matters, the condition of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, ask leave to submit the subjoined report *in part*:

Your committee have been laboriously engaged in the investigation of the affairs and management of this company, from an early period of the session, and are still diligently employed in the prosecution of that enquiry, with a view to a full and satisfactory report upon a subject deeply interesting to the people of this State in the present embarrassed condition of the public finances, arising mainly from the failure of the President and Directors to fulfil the engagements of that company.

It would have been more agreeable to your committee to have embraced in this report, a full exhibition of the condition and prospects of all the works of Internal Improvement in which the State is interested, if they could have done so without neglecting other important duties, which they could not safely postpone. Entertaining apprehensions, however, that a further delay in presenting to the House the necessities of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, might seriously retard the action of other committees, they have been constrained to exhibit in this imperfect form, the state of that branch of Internal Improvement, which most requires the serious attention and fostering care of the Legislature. They have felt the necessity of this exposition at this time the more forcibly from the