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BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

February 19th, 1846.

Read and ordered to be printed.

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## REPORT

OF THE

### COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS,

To which was referred the message of his Excellency the Governor, covering a communication from the Honorable Secretary of War, asking a cession of jurisdiction of certain lands lying in Prince George's county.

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The committee on Federal Relations, to whom was referred the message of His Excellency the Governor, covering a communication from the honorable the Secretary of War asking a cession of jurisdiction of certain lands lying in Prince George's county, in this State, and now in the occupancy and possession of the United States, and known as Fort Washington on the Potomac, beg leave to

#### REPORT:

That they have given the subject mature consideration and are of opinion that the Legislature of Maryland, ought not under the circumstances to cede away her jurisdiction over the premises. From evidence laid before your committee, it appears that the first purchase for the site of Fort Washington was made by the Government on 15th April 1808, and embraced three acres and one hundred and twenty-seven perches, as appears by a deed of that date from the late Thomas A. Digges. The second purchase was made by the government of Thomas A. Digges, William D. Digges and Robert Brent, on the 31st August 1815, and embraced as appears by a deed of that date from those gentlemen nine acres and twenty-three perches. It further appears by a decision of the Court of Appeals of this State in 6 Harris and Johnson 364, that Thomas Digges, only took a life estate in the lands mentioned in that reported case. The land embraced in the two purchases is understood to be a part of the tract of land called Warburton which with another tract called Frankland, are the lands upon which it seems that decision had a bearing.

It has also been shewn to your committee, that on the 30th of September 1813, the late William D. Digges, conveyed "all his real estate in Maryland or elsewhere, whether in possession, re-