

to the Congress of the U. States at the sum of \$2,550,000; and whereas if the said proceeds shall be distributed upon sound principles of distributive justice among the several States of the Union, the state of Maryland would be entitled to receive annually the sum of \$86,756.89, which sum would furnish her Legislature with sufficient means to diffuse the blessings of education to the indigent, to construct her works of internal improvement, and effectually to proceed in the philanthropic policy of colonizing her free people of colour; without the necessity of any further imposition of taxes on her citizens—Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the recommendation by the President of the United States in his last annual message to Congress to cede the public lands to the new states in which they are located is impolitic, unjust, and highly injurious to the fair and legitimate claims of Maryland, and that it is our duty to those whom we represent, solemnly to protest against the adoption of such a policy, and at the same time earnestly to request our representatives in Congress to give a zealous support to the passage of the bill, from the Senate providing for the distribution of the proceeds of the sales of public lands amongst the several states and territories of this Union, now pending before the House of Representatives of the United States.

Which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Willson, chairman of the committee on claims, made a favourable report upon the petition of Meshack Browning, of Allegany county, praying the return of a sum of money improperly paid into the State Treasury; accompanied with the following resolution:

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Treasurer of the Western Shore, be and he is hereby directed to pay to John Slicer, of Allegany county, or to his order, for the use and benefit of Meshack Browning, of said county, the sum of thirty-five dollars, it being the amount of composition money, paid by the said Browning, into the Treasury, upon certain lands in the county aforesaid, which were caveated by a certain James Cuninghame, and the caveat ruled good by the Chancellor.

HORACE WILLSON, Chairman,

By order,

Robert Griffith, Clk.

Which was read the first and second time, by special order, and assented to.