

quired to report to this House immediately the rates of freight charged on coal shipped over said road, and whether said rates, are uniform; and whether they or either of them have made any special agreement with the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company, the American Coal Company; the Central Mining and Manufacturing Company and the Borden Mining Company, or any of them, whereby said company or any of them transport coal over said road at less freight and wharfage than other Coal Companies on the line of said road and shall report also the freight per ton per mile, charged by said company on coal shipped by each and every of the Coal Companies transporting coal over said road; and said committee have power to send for persons and papers, with authority to report by bill or otherwise;"

The Consolidation Coal Company have the honor respectfully to State that after a careful consideration of the aforesaid order, the only points in which it is conceived to be applicable to this company are embraced in the following emphatic allegations, viz: .

First, The Consolidation Coal Company are not under their own or any other charter maintaining or operating any railroad in the State of Maryland.

Second, The Consolidation Coal Company have been charged by, and have paid to the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad for the past year of 1866, the rate of four cents per ton per mile, on all coal sent to market, and the same rate of four cents per ton per mile for the preceding year of 1865, excepting for the two months of April and May of said year, when they were charged and paid four and one half cents per ton per mile for transportation.

In attestation of which statement the Consolidation Coal Company have directed this reply to be signed by their Vice President, and to be authenticated by their corporate seal.

JAMES S. MACKIE,

[SEAL.]

Vice President, Consolidation
Coal Co., of Maryland.

Mr. Kerr offered the following:

Ordered, That the use of this Hall be granted to the Rev. James D. McCabe, upon the evening of Friday 22nd instant, for the purpose of delivering a lecture upon the Masonic character of George Washington;

Mr. Ford moved to lay the order on the table,

Which was lost.

The order was then adopted.

On motion of Mr. Creswell,