

Ordered, That the Committee on the Chesapeake Bay and its Tributaries be increased, by adding two additional members.

Which was adopted, and

Messrs. Bond and T. H. Hamilton added to Committee above named.

Mr. Clark, of Montgomery, submitted the following order :

Ordered, That Samuel Riggs, of R., be excused from attendance at this House until Tuesday next.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Young, of Washington, submitted the following order:

Ordered, That Charles Ardinger and Moses Whitson be granted leave of absence until Tuesday next.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Groome submitted the following order :

Ordered, That Messrs. Routzahn and Phillips, of Frederick county, be excused from attendance on the Sessions of this House until next Tuesday.

Which was adopted.

The Secretary of the Senate delivered the following message :

BY THE SENATE,

January 11th, 1872.

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates :*

We propose, with the concurrence of your Honorable Body, the appointment of a Joint Committee of five, two on the part of the Senate, and three on the part of the House, to bring the subject of a Ship Canal across the peninsula of Maryland and Delaware, to connect the waters of the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays, before the Executive of the General Government, or in their discretion before the proper Committee of the Congress of the United States; and in view of its national importance to ask a detail from the Topographical Engineer Corps, to have the route of said Canal surveyed, with a view to ascertain its most advantageous locality, to determine its cost of construction, and report the same at the earliest practicable day to the proper Bureau. We propose that the Committee shall communicate our proposed action to the Executive of the State of Delaware, (their Legislature not being in session,) and request co-operation with us, in bringing this subject to the consideration of the proper authorities of the General Government.