

view of the nearness of the close of the Session, and the constant engagements of the Members of the Senate, I most respectfully submit to you the project of a law, modelled after that of Virginia, which, in my opinion, will effect the purpose of bringing about the desired amicable settlement of our boundary line with the State of Virginia. I would also suggest that provisions be made by the General Assembly, authorizing the employment of counsel on the part of Maryland, to represent her before the joint arbitration, and for defraying Maryland's proportion of the necessary expenses incident on these proceedings.

Leaving to future legislation the question of compensation to be paid to the counsel for the State and the arbitrators, I am sure you will give the matter that consideration it so well merits.

JAMES BLACK GROOME.

An Act to designate the arbitrators to ascertain and fix the boundary between the States of Maryland and Virginia, approved, March 28th, 1874.

WHEREAS, A controversy exists as to the true line of boundary between the States of Maryland and Virginia, and—

*Whereas*, The State of Maryland, by resolutions of its General Assembly, now in Session, has declared its willingness to submit the said controversy to arbitration, and to accept as final and conclusive, such award as may be made in the premises; therefore—

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia*, That the settlement and determination of the true line of boundary between the States of Maryland and Virginia, be referred to the Honorable Jeremiah S. Black, of Pennsylvania, and the Honorable William A. Graham, of North Carolina, and a third person to be selected by them, who are hereby requested to act as arbitrators, and to ascertain and determine the true line of boundary between the said States of Virginia and Maryland, and to make and deliver their award in writing, any two of them concurring therein. Each State shall have the right to be represented by counsel before said arbitrators, subject to such regulations as they may prescribe; and the State of Virginia hereby pledges its faith to accept and abide by the award of said arbitrators in the premises as final and conclusive; provided however, that neither of the said States, nor the citizens thereof, shall by the decision of the said arbitrators, be deprived of any of the rights and privileges, enumerated and set forth in the compact between them entered into in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-five, but that the same shall remain to and be enjoyed by the said States, and the citizens thereof forever.