

JOINT RESOLUTIONS.

more and the great agricultural sections of the Southwest, the West and the Northwest, which find their nearest and natural outlet at Baltimore city ;

Preamble.

And whereas the said canal would afford the cheapest and most effectual means of defending the cities of Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis on the south side, and Philadelphia, Chester, Wilmington, New York and the New England seaports on the north side, in case of war, by enabling the naval forces of the United States freely and speedily to pass from bay to bay, and on interior lines to pass up the Atlantic coast for the defense of threatened points, and would also enable merchant shipping to retreat from one bay to the other in case of danger from a hostile fleet ;

Preamble.

And whereas the Federal Government is charged with the public defense, and it is its duty to adopt the most complete modes of rendering the capital of the United States and the great seaboard cities impregnable, and the interests heretofore mentioned are of national and the construction of said canal of international importance ;

Preamble.

And whereas private individuals are about to take upon themselves the construction of this great work, and are seeking to obtain the necessary means to ensure its successful completion ; now, therefore—

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,
That the Representatives and Senators from Ma-