

Third. What disposition has been made by said Southern Maryland Railroad, or any officer thereof, of said sum of one hundred and sixty-three thousand dollars?

Fourth. Whether any other stockholder than the State of Maryland is a *bona fide* stockholder of said Company, and what is the best course for the State to pursue in connection with its interests in said Company? Although these resolutions were passed as early as January 25th, 1876, the Committee has only examined four witnesses, viz: A. C. Tennison and A. A. Lawrence, formerly County Commissioners of St. Mary's county, and Samuel S. Smoot, President, and Hamilton G. Fant, formerly Treasurer of the Southern Maryland Railroad Company.

A list of witnesses, (copy hereto annexed marked A,) who, in the opinion of the undersigned, could have given most important testimony, was laid before the Committee, who declined to summon most of them, and the Committee resolved to discontinue the investigation against the protest of the undersigned. The Committee failed to procure the attendance of the Comptroller of the Treasury, or of the late Treasurer of the State, the officials entrusted by the law of 1868, with the subscription to the stock of the Company, and the payment of the money to the same, and only examined in relation to the charges against the officers of the Company, those very officers themselves.

In view of these facts, the undersigned are constrained to report, that in their candid judgment, the thorough investigation contemplated by the resolutions, and demanded by the people of the State, has not been had.

The undersigned, however, from the meagre testimony taken before the Committee, have arrived at the following conclusions: The General Assembly of Maryland, at its Session of 1868, passed an Act, (chapter 454,) appropriating the sum of five hundred thousand dollars, for works of Internal Improvement in St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert counties, of which amount, the sum of one hundred and seventy-three thousand dollars was for the purpose of aiding the construction of a railroad in St. Mary's county. At the same Session an Act (chapter 310) was passed appropriating ten thousand dollars of the above amount to make a survey of a railroad from some point in Prince George's county, through Prince George's, Charles and St. Mary's counties to Point Lookout. The Southern Maryland Railroad Company was chartered March 20th, 1868, (chapter 150,) for the purpose of constructing a railroad from some point in Prince George's county to Point Lookout. By Section 10 of this Act, the sum of two dollars