

Mr. Brewer, from the Committee on Federal Relations, (by unanimous consent,) submitted the following

JOINT RESOLUTIONS:

WHEREAS, It is of the greatest importance to the States of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia, that the shad, salmon, herring, rock and other migratory fish, which form already so large a proportion of the food resources of the States and District named, and are destined to be a yet greater source of sustenance and revenue to the said States and District, should have an opportunity to reach the upper waters of the Potomac and its tributaries, not only that they may there find their appropriate spawning beds, but also that the inhabitants of the States named, living upon such upper waters, may have the advantage and benefit of the yearly migration of such fish, as well as those who dwell upon the lower waters of these States named and said District of Columbia.

*And whereas,* It is impossible for such fish to reach said upper waters on account of the impassability of the Great Falls of the Potomac, unless there be built a fish-way to enable such fish to go around said Falls, and so get to the upper waters of the Potomac and its tributaries.

*And whereas,* At a convention of the Commissioners of Fisheries of the States of Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, held in Philadelphia on the 26th day of January, A. D., 1876, a resolution was passed declaring the necessity of the erection of a fish-way over the Great Falls of the Potomac, and urging action by the United States Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries.

*And whereas,* It appears from the report of the Commissioners of Fisheries of this State that it is entirely practicable to erect a fish-way at that point;

*Be it resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Senators of this State be instructed, and its Representatives in Congress requested, to urge upon the Congress of the United States the passage of such measures as will secure the erection of the same by the government of the United States, and the appropriation of the necessary funds for such purpose.

*And be it resolved,* That a copy of these resolutions and preamble be sent to the Senators and Representatives of this State, in the Congress of the United States, and to the Governors of the States hereinbefore named, with the request to lay the same before the Legislatures of their respective States.

Which were read the first time.