

III. A local security from water attack, due to position and natural surroundings ;

IV. Ample water frontage of sufficient depth and performance, and with currents of modern rapidity ;

V. A favorable position with respect to the lines of interior communication, (by rail or otherwise,) with the principal sources of supply ;

VI. That the character of the ground shall be suitable for the construction of excavated docks and basins, and for heavy structures ;

VII. Proximity to centres of labor and supplies of material ;

VIII. Healthiness of the climate and its suitability for outdoor labor ;

IX. The existence in the vicinity of an ample supply of good potable water ; and

WHEREAS, The Governor of this State on January 24, 1898, transmitted to the Honorable General Assembly of Maryland a special message in writing in reference to this matter, reciting in terms both forcible and commendatory why, in view of its peculiar importance, action prompt and appropriate should be had in this matter in order to secure the accomplishment of the desired object ; and which message is as follows, to wit :

STATE OF MARYLAND,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
ANNAPOLIS, *January 24, 1898.*

To the Honorable the General Assembly of Maryland :

GENTLEMEN—I beg leave to submit herewith resolutions passed by the City Council of Annapolis relative to the desired action to be taken by the Representatives from Maryland in the Congress of the United States looking to the establishment of a dry dock at Round bay, on the Severn river, for the purpose of docking and repairing vessels of the United States navy. The document accompanying this message shows fully the need of such a dock as is proposed, and the advantages of the location mentioned, and in suggesting action on the part of your bodies in this behalf I need only say that recently the United States Government has had to send one of its largest vessels to Nova Scotia to be docked, for the reason that we had no dock accessibly located which was large enough for the purpose. I therefore suggest that a joint resolution be passed requesting Maryland's Representatives in Congress to use their best efforts in this behalf, and in such resolution it might, in view of the great advantage which would