

pany, are satisfied of the justice of such claims, and that they were contracted for purposes and objects indispensable to the construction and use of the road.

By a memorial presented by the company to the Legislature at its last session, and the present memorial, the causes are explained, which have produced the present indebtedness of the company, and by a report made by a select committee of the last House of Delegates, prepared after a careful examination of the accounts and vouchers, the House was informed that all the disbursements were faithfully and honestly made, and that the indebtedness of the company resulted from causes wholly beyond their control, and for which they were in no way responsible.

The committee have also ascertained that, after the original capital of this company was subscribed, being \$52,000 by private subscribers and \$300,000 by the State, the city of Annapolis increased her subscription \$5,000; the whole of which has been expended upon the road, or applied to pay pressing debts.

The debts now due, are for the most part owing to persons who can badly afford to lie out of their money, and some of them, having decrees and judgments, will, unless some provision can be made for their payment within a reasonable time, proceed to sell the moving power and other property of the company, and thus break up its operations. Should this course be pursued, and the committee are fully persuaded it will be, unless some action of the Legislature can prevent it, the State will not only lose her entire investment of three hundred thousand dollars, but the great convenience which the public has derived from the road, will be entirely lost.

It seems to the committee therefore, that as the revenue derived to the State from this road, greatly exceeds the interest upon the amount now required; that it is the true policy of the Legislature to afford the relief asked for, taking care however to protect the State from loss, by every guard of which the nature of the case is susceptible.

All which is respectfully submitted,

In the absence of the chairman,

JOHN S. SELLMAN.

Which was read,

And ordered to be printed.

Mr. Risteau, from the select committee on that subject, reported a bill entitled, a further supplement to the act entitled, an act to incorporate the Baltimore and Port Deposit Rail Road Company, passed December session 1836, chapter 327;

Read the first and by special order the second time, and

On motion of Mr. Causin,

Recommitted to the said select committee.

Mr. Geyer, chairman of the committee on the Constitution, to which was referred the bill from the Senate entitled, an act to amend the Constitution and Form of Government of the State of Maryland, reported favorably thereon;