

Mr. Carroll, from a Joint committee, submitted the following

REPORT:

The Joint committee charged with the duty of investigating the circumstances attending the destruction of the private property of Governor A. W. Bradford, in July, 1864, and of estimating the value thereof, ask leave to report:

That in July, 1864, the dwelling of Governor Bradford, situated in the immediate vicinity of Baltimore, with its entire contents, including furniture and a valuable library, was burned by a squad of Rebels, acting, as they asserted, under an order from one of their superior officers. That nothing was left of a once handsome, comfortable and costly building but a mass of blackened ruins. That the reasons assigned by the Rebels for the commission of the act was that it was done in retaliation for the burning of Governor Letcher's house in Virginia by the Union Army.

A personal interview with the Architect, under whose direction the building was erected, has enabled the committee to form a proper estimate of its value, and from other sources they have received such additional information as was necessary to lead them to correct conclusions in regard to the entire loss the Governor has sustained.

They estimate the entire loss at forty thousand dollars.

All the circumstances connected with this destruction of the private property of Governor Bradford, point to the fact that he has suffered this severe loss because he was the Governor of Maryland—that it was an indignity offered to the State through him; and, therefore, that the case rest upon different grounds, and presents itself in an entirely different aspect from losses sustained by private individuals as the accidents of war.

The committee think that it is due to the State herself as to her most able, faithful and patriotic Chief Magistrate that an appropriation should be promptly made to reimburse him for the loss he has thus sustained.

They, therefore, recommend the passage of the accompanying bill.

THOS. KING CARROLL,
GEO. C. MAUND,

On the part of the Senate.

SAMUEL P. SMITH,
JAMES McCAULEY,
THOS. H. MULES,

On the part of the House.

Which was read.