

lency that the State of Maryland may take the matter into consideration.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's

Most obedient servant,

F. W. SEWARD,

*Acting Secretary.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS,

WASHINGTON, D. C., *Jan'y 25, 1865.*

*Dear Sir* :—Permit me respectfully to call your attention to section 2nd of the Act of Congress of July 2nd, 1864, (page 347 pamphlet edition) which set apart the old Hall of the House of Representatives for a Hall of Statuary, by which you were “authorized to invite each and all the States to provide and furnish Statues, in marble or bronze, not exceeding two in number for each State, of deceased persons, who have been citizens thereof, and illustrious for their historic renown or from distinguished civic or military services, such as each State shall determine to be worthy of this National commendation ; and when so furnished the same shall be placed in the old Hall of the House of Representatives in the Capitol of the United States, which is hereby set apart or so much thereof as may be necessary, as a National Statuary Hall for the purpose herein indicated.

That you approve of the high purposes of this law, I have no doubt, and in view of the fact that several of the State Legislatures are now in session, but may soon adjourn, may I ask you to take such action at once as you shall deem appropriate in order to notify and give the invitation provided for, to the Governors of the several States, so that they can take early steps to carry the purpose of Congress into full effect.

With high respect,

Your most obedient servant,

JUSTIN S. MORRILL.

Which was read and referred to the committee on Federal Relations.

The Clerk of the House of Delegates delivered the following bills :