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158-5-57

REPORT

OF

THE COMMITTEE

TO WHOM WAS REFERRED

THE REPORT

OF

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

CONTAINING

A statement of proceedings under the act to regulate the laying out and making a road from Cumberland, in the state of Maryland, to the state of Ohio.

JANUARY 24, 1815.

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ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND



IN SENATE
OF
THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 24, 1815.

Mr. Smith, from the committee to whom was referred the report of the secretary of the treasury, containing a statement of proceedings under the act to regulate the laying out and making a road from Cumberland, in the state of Maryland, to the state of Ohio, report:

That the act for the admission of the state of Ohio into the union, has appropriated five per cent. of the net proceeds of the land laying within that state, and sold by congress, (from and after the 30th day of June, 1802.) to the laying out and making roads leading from the navigable waters emptying into the Atlantic, to the river Ohio, and through the said state of Ohio; and by a subsequent law, passed the 8d of March, 1803, congress appropriated three of the said five per cent. to laying out and making roads within the state of Ohio, leaving two per cent. unexpended; which two per cent. was, by an act passed the 29th of March, 1806, appropriated to the laying out and making a road from Cumberland, in the state of Maryland, to the state of Ohio; that under the said act the president of the United States was authorized to appoint three commissioners, to lay out the said road. It appears that commissioners were appointed, and that the road has been laid out by them agreeably to their instructions; and it also appears by the letter of Mr. David Shriver,

(the superintendent of the road,) contained in the report of the secretary of the treasury, that the making of the said road is progressing as fast as could reasonably be expected; that the whole of the work contracted for is 39 miles, of which 28 miles may be considered as nearly finished; that a stone bridge of 80 feet span over the Little Youghagenny river is nearly completed.

It also appears that the 39 miles contracted for, bring the road to the Big Youghagenny; from thence to where it will intersect the old road, is eleven miles, which your committee think ought to be completed.

The committee find that a turnpike road from Baltimore, extending sixty miles in a direct line towards Cumberland, has been completed, and that the banks of Maryland have, for valuable considerations, agreed to construct a turnpike road from Conococheague creek to Cumberland; so that there is a well founded expectation that a turnpike road from Baltimore to Cumberland will be completed before the road from thence to the Ohio can be finished.

The committee find that congress have appropriated in advance of the fund of two per cent. at different times, \$ 287,320 25.

The committee submit the following estimate and statement, which they think may be considered tolerably correct. to wit:

The 39 miles of the road contracted for will cost	
\$ 7,500 per mile, - - - -	\$ 292,500
A stone bridge has been constructed of	
80 feet span across the Little Yough-	
agenny, which cost - - - .	14,000
	<hr/>
	\$306,500

The sums paid from the treasury, prior to the

31st day of December, 1814, amount to	-	194,631 80	
The balance of the appro- priation heretofore made, and which re- mained undrawn on the 1st January, 1815, was		92,688 45	
		<hr/>	287,320 25

So that an additional appropriation to complete the work already contract- ed for, is wanted of about			19,179 75
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To carry the road 11 miles beyond the Big Youghagenny, where it will in- tersect the road now travelled, and which will be probably another year's work, will cost, at \$7,500 per mile,	-	-	-	82,500 00
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\$ 101,679 75

To construct the bridge over the Big Youghagenny, it will require, if built of stone, a further sum of			40,000 00
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\$ 141,679 75

If it should be determined to provide at this time for carrying the road to the western foot of Laurel Hill, 7 miles further, it will require, in addition,	-	-	-	52,500 00
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\$ 194,179 75

If, lastly, to Union Town, three miles further,	-	-	-	22,500 00
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\$ 216,679 75

It will appear from the foregoing statement, that congress have already appropriated in advance of the fund of two per cent. on the net proceeds of the sales of land within the state of Ohio, the sum of \$ 287,320 25, and have paid in part, the sum of - - - - - \$ 194,631 80

It appears from the report of the land office to the treasury department, that the said fund had yielded to the treasury, prior to the 1st day of October, 1814, the sum of 107,004 48

So that the amount of the advance actually made by the treasury, is only \$ 87,627 32

From this view of the subject, the committee are of opinion, that the fund appropriated for the making the said road, is fully adequate to the object.

The effect of an appropriation during the present session of congress for any portion of this work, will be only to authorize the treasury to make contracts during the present year for carrying it on. Very little, if any money will be drawn from the treasury, except for completing the contracts already made, until the year 1816.

The committee are of opinion that an appropriation ought to be made, to enable the treasury to make contracts to carry the new road to where it will intersect the road now travelled on, and sufficient for the constructing of a stone bridge over the Big Youghagenny; for which purpose they submit a bill.