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MR. WHITE, Chairman.

REPORT

OF

THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,

UPON THE

Growth and the Manufacture of Silk.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

February 15th, 1838,

Read, and 117 copies ordered to be printed,

By order,

George G. Brewer, Clerk

The committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the petition of sundry citizens of Queen Anne's county, praying aid from the State in behalf of the Silk culture, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave respectfully to

REPORT:

That the measure commended to the adoption of the Legislature by the petitioners, is one of deep moment, involving in its consequences, the introduction and success of the silk culture, and the immense benefits to be derived from that source of profitable employment. Your committee have witnessed the failure of agricultural industry, to realize adequate returns, the growing barriers to enterprise, incident to a soil deprived of much of its fertility by exhausting crops, and the consequent emigration of many of our most active and useful citizens to the South and West, for the last few years, with feelings of deep concern, and they regard the inquiry which seeks a remedy for those evils, as one of per-