

Such appears to be the general topics within the range of the inquiry submitted to your committee. They have endeavored to convey a faithful outline of the subject, without aiming at an exhibition of the details, which a more complete elucidation might demand. It is with some hope of recommending even a more general application to these speculations, that they have progressed in their work, as they feel confident the subject cannot be too soon taken up, or too much dwelt on by the citizens of Maryland, who are compelled to maintain by the resources of ingenuity and artistic improvement; the influence and political consideration in the confederacy, which a small population and a limited territory might deny them. In order therefore to keep alive the attention and the zeal of the state upon this question, your committee conceive no better plan could be devised than the establishment of a board of public works. As this however is a matter for which the state may not yet be prepared, and which may require much more information in regard to the objects of internal improvement, than your committee have it in their power to present, they would recommend for the present the institution of a committee to be selected by the executive from among the most intelligent members of the community, with directions to report either individually or collectively to them, the most judicious course of improvement in reference to the roads, canals and rivers of the state, or such parts of them as may come under their notice. And further, that the executive be authorized, if they should deem it expedient, to cause surveys to be made, and maps to be returned of such districts, roads or water courses as in their opinion may be necessary to the illustration of any proposed plan of operations, and that directions be given, that such reports be made, if possible, in time for the meeting of the next general assembly. To this effect your committee have the honor to present the following resolutions accompanying this report. All of which is respectfully submitted

JOHN P. KENNEDY, Chairman of the Com.

House of Delegates, Feb. 11, 1822.

RESOLUTIONS No. 1.

*Resolved*, That the governor and council be authorized and empowered to take such measures in regard to the appointment of the time and place of meeting, and the adjustment of other preliminaries attending upon the execution of the duties assigned to the commissioners appointed in virtue of the act passed last session for the examination of the navigation of the Potomac, conjointly with the commissioners appointed by the executive of Virginia, as they in their judgment shall deem most conducive to the prompt and wholesome execution of the said act.

*Further resolved*, That the governor and council be authorized to draw upon the treasurer of the Western Shore for any sum of money which may be necessary to defray any reasonable and necessary charges growing out of the said commission.

*And further resolved*, That the governor be requested to apprise the executive of Virginia of the wish of this state, that the said commission should proceed to discharge the duties assigned them, as soon as the season and other circumstances may render it most proper.

RESOLUTIONS No. 2.

*Resolved*, That the governor and council be directed to select, as soon after the passage of these resolutions as it can conveniently be done, nine of the most discreet and intelligent citizens of this state, as a committee for the purpose of reporting to the executive, either collectively or individually, as their convenience may allow, upon the most efficient, useful and practicable plans of internal improvement in relation either to the whole of the state or such parts thereof as they may think proper respectively to select. And that the executive be authorized to supply any vacancy in said committee, which may occur during the term of their appointment.

*Further resolved*, That to each person selected as aforesaid, the governor and council be directed to transmit a copy of the reports on internal improvement by the committees of the senate and house of delegates respectively, and also a copy of the following instructions:

"You are requested to communicate to the executive of this state, as soon as it may suit your convenience, not delaying longer than the period of commencement of the next general assembly, such information as you may have it in your power to afford, in relation to the subjects of internal improvement within this state, more especially confining your attention to a description of the general face and character of the country; the elevation of the most remarkable hills and mountains; the nature of their minerals, soil and vegetable productions; the courses of the rivers and creeks; the nature of the country through which they pass, and the produce in which it abounds; the means of connection between important rivers; the facilities afforded to the construction of canals, roads or railways; the prices of labor; the respective average charges per mile in making roads or canals; the probable advantages to the internal trade and commerce of each district by making such improvements, and all such other information upon these questions as you may consider useful.

*Further resolved* That the governor and council be authorized to procure such general surveys of the rivers, water courses of districts of country, as they shall in their judgments deem necessary to the illustration of the subjects of internal improvement, and that for the expenses of the same, they be authorized to draw on the treasurer of the western shore. Which was read

The bill for the sale of the real estate of Mark Benton, late of Queen Ann's county, deceased, as read the second time, and on motion by Mr Stevens, the question was put, That the blank appointing the trustee, be filled up with "Philemon B. Hopper?" The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

AFFIRMATIVE.

Messrs Cannell, Harris, Hall, Stewart, Woodward, Weems, Ballard, Carroll, Hughes, Meconin, Nicholson, Stevens, Riley, Pigman, Culler, Bruce, Hardcastle, Barney, Bowles, Kershner, Hoffman, Greenwell.—22.