

city of Baltimore, in this state, and the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, would be highly beneficial, as well to this state and its citizens, as to a great portion of the citizens of the United States, by the increased facility of communication it would afford between the eastern and southern portions of the union; and the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, have expressed their willingness and desire, with the concurrence of this legislature, to construct a Rail Road from some suitable point on that part of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road already constructed, in a direction toward the city of Washington, as far as the line of this state, and with the consent and approbation of the Congress of the United States, (which they have applied for and have good reason to expect they will obtain,) continue the same to the city of Washington, so as to effect a complete communication between the two cities by rail ways. And the said company further propose, that the right and option shall be reserved to the state until the end of one year after the communication by rail way between the said two cities shall be effected and in operation, either to subscribe for and take stock of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, to the amount of the whole, or of any part of the funds which shall be expended by the said company in the construction of the said Rail Road; or to take and hold any part of said amount, not exceeding one half of the whole cost of construction; and of contingent expenses, in a separate and distinct stock, limited in its extent and object to the said cost of the said Rail Road authorised by this act, whereby this important national work will be effected without any advance of funds or risk of responsibility of the state; while the right and option will be secured to the state to derive a full portion of its benefits, and this General Assembly deeming it to be beneficial to the state, and its citizens, to authorize the extension and construction of the said Rail Road, on the terms proposed by the said company, and the present being a most propitious moment for the completion of this highly important and useful object, inasmuch as the rate of interest is lower than it has ever heretofore been, and lower than there is any reasonable hope to expect that it will be hereafter. Therefore

And the question was put, will the Senate strike out the preamble as proposed? On this question the yeas and nays being asked for, were taken and appeared as follows:

## AFFIRMATIVE.

Messrs. Forrest,

Herbert—2

## NEGATIVE.

Messrs. Marriott, Pres't.

Dennis,