

APPENDIX.

[MR. EMORY.]

OF THE

COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE

Made the following report relative to the collision between the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company and the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company.

Mr. Emory submitted the following report and resolutions, which were read the first time:

The committee directed by the order of the senate of January 24th to join the committee on Internal Improvement from the honorable the House of Delegates, and proceed in concert with them to examine and report upon the facts and allegations in connection with the subject matter of the collision between the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, and the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, at the narrow passes between the Point of Rocks and Harper's Ferry; having performed that duty, begs leave to make the following report:

A short narration of the motives and causes which brought those great companies into existence, and which have propelled them onward to their present point of collision, may not be unimportant to a just estimate of the present condition of things, and to keep the General Assembly stedfast to its purposes in pursuance of that course of legislation which may enable it to achieve the great objects heretofore contemplated by the grants of charters to those companies.

The invention of the steam engine and its application to the propulsion of vessels, and the employment of this power to ascend and descend the valley of the Mississippi, had wrought an entire change in the commerce of the western states. Before this important and most pregnant discovery, the productions for exportation of the western states found their outlet almost wholly by a descending navigation down the Mississippi, and went abroad through New Orleans