

of 1831. In 1831 the matter was again brought before our legislature, in a report and resolutions which were sent to the Governor of Virginia, and so far as your committee are informed, that state does not claim the country south of the North Branch, by alienation, usucaption or prescription. But the legislature of that state passed a law at the last session, fixing an arbitrary place of beginning, and thus putting at defiance the whole Maryland claim and pretensions, without denying our facts and without offering an argument to subvert any one of our positions. Virginia has disregarded all our friendly overtures of arbitration, and will have nothing to do with us except upon her own terms, and these are found contrary to justice, and the equity and right of the matter. Whatever commissioners or a final umpire might have thought, if the questions had been left open, for an honorable adjustment, it seems to your committee that the manner of Virginia in her ultimatum, forbids on our part any further approach to her except by adversary proceedings. Your committee therefore respectfully submit several resolutions for the consideration of the legislature:

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That it is necessary for the peace and security of our people and the dignity of the state, that our southern and western boundaries should be finally settled and defined.*

*Resolved, That this state has seen with deep regret, the refusal on the part of Virginia, to leave the settlement of these boundaries, to friendly arbitration as proposed by this state.*

*Resolved, That the Attorney General of this state, be and he is hereby requested to cause suit to be instituted in the name of "The state of Maryland" against "The Commonwealth of Virginia," in such manner and form as may be technically required, in the Supreme Court of the United States, for the purpose of procuring a final, legal adjustment and settlement, of the southern and western boundaries of this state.*

*Resolved, That the governor and council of this state be and they are hereby authorized and requested, to se-*