

Mr. Blakistone submitted the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas there are many conflicting opinions entertained by the several members of this legislature, as to the best and most advantageous plan upon which a rail road should be constructed between the cities of Baltimore and Washington, in consequence of which it is necessary, as it is in all cases of doubt, that the subject matter of consideration should have the expression of public sentiment in relation thereto; Therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That with a view to promote the welfare and prosperity of the good sovereign people of this state, the growth of trade, and the public convenience, it is expedient that a rail road connecting the cities of Baltimore and Washington should be constructed.

2. Resolved, That the governor and council be and they are hereby authorised and empowered, to appoint three discreet and suitable persons, commissioners, whose duty it shall be to cause the ground between said cities to be carefully examined by one or more skilful engineers, and to survey and locate a route for such rail road, on the best ground, and to cause to be made out careful estimates of the cost of constructing such road of the best materials, with all necessary viaducts, bridges, toll-houses, and other suitable erections, and of the requisite engines, cars, and other conveniencies, and generally whatever may be necessary to present a full view of all the expenditure to be incurred in establishing such road; and whatever information they may deem useful in enabling the legislature, and the public generally, to compare the relative advantages and disadvantages of the work, and submit a full and detailed report thereof, (with all attainable exactness,) to the next general assembly, on or before the first day of January eighteen hundred and thirty-two: Provided always, that the whole expense to be incurred in obtaining the information, and making the surveys and estimates, directed by the foregoing resolutions, shall not exceed one thousand dollars; and that no appointment shall be made by the governor and council to execute any of the duties required by the said resolutions, until they shall be satisfied that the whole expense will not exceed that amount.

3. Resolved, That the governor and council be and they are hereby authorised and empowered, to make a reasonable allowance to the commissioners, engineers, and other persons engaged in the execution of the foregoing resolu-