

Harrisburg, the great railroad centre of the North, occupying to Washington the same position that Richmond does on the South—both situated upon the meridian line passing North and South through the metropolis of the nation. Until recently, Washington had but one line of railroad, that running East, through Baltimore, to the Atlantic cities, Philadelphia, New York and Boston. By the enterprise of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and the Pennsylvania Central, that city will shortly have railroad communication South by the Alexandria and Fredericksburg Railroad to Richmond, and by the Metropolitan Railroad West, through Cumberland to Cincinnati and St. Louis. The equally important line to the North, to complete the communication with the four points of the compass, remains unimproved and unprovided for. The object of the people whom we have the honor to represent, is to open this line of communication, for the double purpose of affording to the General Government and the rich and populous section North and North-west, the most speedy and direct communication with the Capital, and at the same time to give railroad accommodation to an enterprising district of country as yet without those facilities.

It is to this section of the State that the people of the nation are indebted for the father of the railroad system of the country. The county in which Philip E. Thomas was born has yet to see and hear the sound of the American engine, which his sagacity called into being.

The Legislature of Maryland is now petitioned to give to this section (the last in the State to claim it) the benefit of this great improvement; an improvement which has conferred countless millions upon other sections, and in which this asks to participate.

Local interest, public use, and natural consideration, alike prompt the petition.

And as, in duty bound, &c., &c.

CHAS. W. HOOD,
WM. C. POLK,
JOS. H. HOBBS,
JOHN A. DORSEY,
DAVID CLARK,
RICHARD DORSEY, of C.,
AARON CHADWICK,
D. P. GAITHER,
A. J. F. DAVIS.

Committee.

Which was read and referred to the Committee on Corporations.