

REPORT

OF THE

Committee on Federal Relations.

To the Honorable,

The Speaker of the House of Delegates:

The Committee on Federal Relations, to whom were referred the Message and Correspondence of the Governor, the Bill calling a Sovereign Convention, &c., &c., ask leave respectfully to report, as follows:

The Message of his Excellency, the Governor, demands the consideration of the Legislature, from two points of view—first, in regard to the state of public affairs which it discloses, and secondly, as to the remedy which it suggests to the people of the State for the perilous contingencies which surround them.

So far as we can ascertain the views of the Governor, from the brief presentation of them, which the haste of our meeting had, as he states, permitted him to make, it appears that he regards the circumstances which have transpired since the attack upon the Massachusetts regiment in Baltimore, on the 19th of April, as constituting all the facts to which it is necessary your attention should be drawn. Your Committee, of course, recognize the propriety of avoiding at this moment all unnecessary recurrence to discussions which have already been far overstepped by the rapid progress of events; but they find it, at the same time, quite impossible to do justice to the questions before them, without a frank and explicit reference to at least a portion of the public events which had preceded and were so closely connected with the occurrence alluded to.