

R E P O R T .

The Committee having investigated the charges of fraud and corruption in the obtention of the ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, passed and approved March 28, 1859, in relation to the Baltimore City Passenger Railway, beg leave to report that they have examined a great number of witnesses, and taken a large mass of evidence, which they herewith submit to the consideration of the House.

After the most diligent investigation, the Committee have failed to obtain evidence of fraud and corruption, either on the part of the City Council or assignees. The utmost efforts have failed to show that any bribe was offered or consideration received on the part of the City Council, or that the grantees used any undue influence on the same.

In regard to the allegations, that the assignees and their associates belong to the Republican party, which is justly obnoxious to the people of Maryland, the Committee have been satisfied of the utter groundlessness of the charge by letters and certificates from gentlemen of the highest character. The seventh section does not provide for the amount of the capital stock to be subscribed, nor the value of the shares, nor the payment of the subscription money, nor for the election of Directors or Managers. Nor does it define the relative power or influence which the several stockholders shall have in the conduct of the business of the partnership. There exists nowhere any power to exclude any one, offering to subscribe, on the ground of pecuniary inability to pay or any other moral consideration.

In regard to the opening of books for subscription, Messrs. Brock & Co. have acted under the advice of counsel, who were very decided in their conviction that the observance of the section was not binding and obligatory on the assignees. In relation to the fare charged or allowed to be charged under the ordinance, the amount of four cents for each passenger goes