

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS,

WASHINGTON, D. C., *Jan. 25th*, 1865.

Dear Sir:—Permit me respectfully to call your attention to section 2d of the Act of Congress of July 2d, 1864, (page 347, pamphlet edition,) which set apart the old Hall of the House of Representatives for a hall of statuary, by which you were “authorized to invite each and all the States to provide and furnish statues in marble or bronze, not exceeding two in number for each State, of deceased persons who have been citizens thereof, and illustrious for their historic renown, or from distinguished civic or military services, such as each State shall determine to be worthy of this National commendation; and when so furnished, the same shall be placed in the old Hall of the House of Representatives, in the Capitol of the United States, which is hereby set apart, or so much thereof as may be necessary, as a National Statuary Hall, for the purposes herein indicated.”

That you approve of the high purposes of this law, I have no doubt, and in view of the fact that several of the State Legislatures are now in session, but may soon adjourn, may I ask that you take such action at once as you shall deem appropriate, in order to notify and give the invitation proposed, to the Governors of the several States, so that they can take early steps to carry the purpose of Congress into full effect.

With high respect, your obd't serv't,

JUSTIN S. MORRILL.

On motion of Mr. Pilkington,

The communication was referred to a special committee.

On motion of Mr. Hynes,

The rules were suspended, and he presented a petition from Nathan Warfield, to make valid a certain deed;

Which was read and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

The bill entitled, an Act to Incorporate the German Fire Insurance company of Baltimore,

Was read the third time and passed by yeas and nays as follow:

AFFIRMATIVE.

Messrs.

Frazier, Speaker,

Hodson,

Hoffman,

Poteet,

Rider,