

through the causeway which forms the road between Kent Island and the mainland, respectfully represent,

That the said petitioners set forth that the causeway aforesaid obstructs the navigation between the waters of the bay and those of Chester river, and prevent the passage of fish, and by that means seriously injures the fisheries on the latter river, they therefore petition for an act authorising a thoroughfare to be made and a drawbridge to be constructed, so as to remove the said obstruction, and at the same time secure a passage over the said road, at the joint expense of Kent and Queen Ann's counties.

On the other hand it is represented by those who are opposed to said petition, that the stream which divides Kent Island from the main, is so shallow as only to admit of the passage of battauxs and other open boats, which seldom have occasion to pass through said narrows; that the fisheries had become unprofitable in Chester river and other waters before the construction of said causeway, and must therefore be attributed to some other cause; that the attempt to construct a drawbridge would endanger the whole causeway, which now forms a convenient road, and that if the attempt succeeded it would subject the people of Queen Ann's county to a heavy expense, and if it failed would subject the people of Kent Island, and the adjacent county, to great inconvenience without making the fisheries more profitable,—they therefore pray that the said causeway may not be opened, but that if hereafter it should be done, that it may be at the expense of Talbot and Kent counties as well as Queen Ann's county.

Your committee have consulted the delegates of those counties, and have ascertained that they do not consider themselves authorised to agree to such an arrangement, and as the petitions do not ask that the thoroughfare should be made at the expense of Queen Ann's county alone, but at the joint expense of those counties interested, your committee therefore respectfully recommend a postponement of the whole subject until the next session of the General Assembly, so as to give the people of the counties interested an opportunity of deciding upon the propriety of opening said thoroughfare, and subjecting themselves to a fair proportion of the tax for that purpose.

All which is respectfully submitted,

LEMUEL ROBERTS, Chairman.

By order,

BENJ. SEEGAR, Clerk.

Which was read the first, and by special order the second time, and concurred in.

Mr. Ford, from the select committee, made an unfavorable report upon the petition of Thomas H. Miles, clerk of the Levy Court of St. Mary's county, praying additional compensation as such,

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. White, chairman of the committee on agriculture, to which was referred the bill reported by Mr. Roberts, entitled, an act for the