

HOUSE....No. 174.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

P E T I T I O N .

*To the Honorable, the Senate, and the House of Representatives
in General Court assembled :*

The undersigned, harbor committee of the Boston Marine Society, would hereby respectfully petition your honorable bodies in support of the Bill in relation to the coast defences of Massachusetts, presented by the Hon. Peleg W. Chandler, to the House and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The appropriation of the sum of one million of dollars to be expended under the authority and direction of his excellency the governor and the honorable council, would, in all probability, not only accomplish the completion of the fortifications in Boston harbor, as respects structure and armament, thus placing these important defences in readiness for operation under the General Government, at any moment, but would also obtain for all the exposed sea coast of our Commonwealth such iron clad and sufficiently armed vessels and machines of war, as would effectually guard it against any aggressive enemy.

Your petitioners have from time to time within the past year, presented to his excellency the governor their views and opinions

upon this subject in writings, which are now in the possession of your committee. With begging your reference to them for more particular explanation, we remain,

Respectfully, your obedient servants,

OSBORN HOWES,
THOMAS LAMB,
CALEB CURTIS,
W. J. C. SMITH,
WM. BRAMHALL,
ROB'T B. STORER,
J. B. LINCOLN.