

sought earnestly, and they confidently believe, successfully, to advance that policy.

By the report of a civil engineer, a highly respectable native citizen of her great commercial emporium, it had been affirmed, that to enable the State of Maryland to extend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to Baltimore it should be brought down to Georgetown, at a level of not less than twenty-five or thirty feet above the tide. It has accordingly been brought to the heart of Georgetown, at a level of thirty-seven feet above tide water, thereby saving in its future extension, on that high level, not only the purchase or condemnation of much valuable ground in Georgetown, but the heavy excavation in the rear of Washington to which a lower elevation would have been exposed; while the expense incurred beyond the point from whence the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal descends, towards its termination, is chiefly for locking down to the river, which must otherwise have been encountered in greater inconvenience, and much greater cost immediately above Georgetown. The basin, essential to any termination of the canal, would no where have proved of such easy construction, as at the mouth of Rock Creek; and the sale of the mole or pier designed to form it, enlarged to a breadth of eighty feet, will pay very nearly for the construction of the entire basin.

The President and Directors, and the stockholders, did not, while they promoted the interest of the State of Maryland, in advancing the general interest and securing the harmony of the company, fail to examine carefully the extent of the power under which they acted; and, while not doubting their chartered authority so to terminate the canal, yet for greater security, they referred the validity of the act by which they did so, to the judgment of the highest law officer of the United States, whose published opinion accompanies this expose of the present condition of the common enterprise of so many governments and cities. The undersigned trust, it will appear, that the great enterprise committed to their