

MEMORIAL

To the Honorable the

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND :

THE Memorial of a Convention of citizens of the states of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Ohio, and of the District of Columbia, respectfully sheweth—

That this Convention assembled at the city of Baltimore, in the month of November last, and was composed of Delegates, who represented nearly Two Millions of Inhabitants; and were chosen in consequence and in pursuance of an invitation, given by a public meeting of the citizens of Alleghany county, Maryland—which requested the constituents of said Convention, to send delegates thereto, “for the purpose of considering and adopting such measures, as should seem most likely to cause the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to be soon finished, and such other Works of National character to be undertaken, as might advance the welfare of Maryland and her sister states.”

The Convention directed that its proceedings should be published, and copies thereof will be furnished to your honorable body. From these you will perceive, that its deliberations were characterized by great zeal and unusual harmony: that several committees were appointed to Report, on the Revenue, and Cost of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal—and its influence on the time and price of transportation; and that others, were instructed to invoke the aid of Congress—of the Legislatures of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and of the municipal authorities of Baltimore.

These Reports and Memorials have been prepared with great care and ability:—they are published with the proceedings of the Convention, and so fully and well explain the origin, progress, condition, wants, prospects, and future usefulness of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, as greatly to abridge the task that was devolved on the committee, who were appointed to invoke the further aid of Maryland, for that great work.

That this Canal should be regarded as a Work of National importance, none entertain a doubt; for all perceive, that it will furnish a necessary, cheap, expeditious and central means of intercourse between the inhabitants of this Union;—and that, whilst it ministers to their personal comfort and prosperity, it will bind together the several communities of which they are members, by the endearing ties of a common interest, and thus promote the general welfare. That this view of the subject should have fixed the attention of the National Government on this Work—procured for it an appropriation of National Treasure, and given rise to the desire that its dimensions might be enlarged to meet the National wants—seem but the natural consequences of a wish to reap the advantages that would follow the completion of even the Eastern section of the Canal, and arise from an aug-