

tolls—which will, at once, be ample to pay the interest, and soon return the principal: also, that their committee cordially concur in these opinions—and with all the feeling that should ever influence your fellow citizens, to look with singleness of purpose to the advancement of the public welfare, when they approach the government of their State; acting too under a lively sense of the great responsibility that was devolved on them by the convention—and being profoundly conscious of their incompetency to perform this duty with appropriate ability, they most respectfully and earnestly invoke the aid, which the convention desires, that you should grant to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, to complete the eastern section of their work, upon such terms, in such manner, and for such reasons, as to your better judgment may seem most fit and proper.

The people of this State once solemnly pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor, to gain their independence; and nobly they redeemed that pledge, unmindful of the cost. Again, to maintain the freedom of the ocean, the right undisturbedly to use that highway of nations—the people of Maryland gave the same pledge to this Union—and since the return of peace, they have paid off their quota of this nation's debt, almost unconsciously, although that quota was at least ten millions of dollars! Can it then be justly doubted, that this people would cheerfully sanction the use of their credit to complete a highway, that will attract to their territory, and accommodate much of the commerce of this nation? When, too, it is most obvious that this may be done without creating any public burthen, without any risk—without making any levy, but that which those who use the work may profitably pay, in order to discharge as well the interest, as the principal, of all the obligations which, in this behalf, the State might assume?

That your decision may lead to the prompt completion of this section of that magnificent work—and by developing the great resources of the State, without imposing any public burthen,—add to her wealth, population, and influence—and thus create for you an additional claim to the confidence of the people, the committee do not entertain a doubt.

Signed on behalf of the Committee of the Convention,  
 JAMES WM. McCULLOH, Chairman.

MARYLAND, 13th Feb., 1835.