

penses, of fourteen thousand dollars for 1838—such a charge should never be allowed, it is calculated to conceal the profligacy of any set of men, who might be disposed to convert to private use, what was intended for public purposes. The committee do not intend to convey the idea that the company have acted improperly in this instance. It is the mode in which statements of expenditures are usually made out. They incline to the opinion that no set of men, however pure and spotless their character, but should be required to exhibit annually a full and fair statement of the particular manner in which every dollar has been expended for that year. Such a course will tend to remove temptation and prevent fraud.

What course the State should pursue in relation to this work, at this time requires the most serious consideration. The State has already incurred responsibilities in the prosecution of her works of internal improvement, which are not to be overlooked in the estimate of her ability to meet them. When to these are added the amount asked for by the company, and required by the Baltimore and Susquehanna rail road, the amount is indeed startling, and requires more than ordinary reflection, in devising the means of sustaining her credit by providing for what she has already incurred, before creating additional obligations.—The difference between those two works must be obvious to any one who looks at the relative position which they occupy. The one terminates within the limits of the State, the other beyond it. The benefits resulting from the former are the exclusive property of the State, those flowing from the latter are shared in common, by those living beyond the limits of the State, and who are not even answerable for the responsibilities incurred in its construction. Why then should Maryland be alone required to strain every nerve for its completion, when those who are equally interested, are unwilling to advance a single dollar. While other states, adopting a wiser and more settled policy, are intent on applying their resources to works exclusively their own; Maryland is devoting hers to the completion of works, in which others are as much interested as herself.

The manner in which she has been drawn in, by the statements and estimates of this company, should not be forgotten at this time. Twice already has the State contributed what the company has assured her would be amply sufficient to complete this work. Twice has this money, or a part of it, been applied, not to the object for which it was asked and obtained, but to relieve the company from embarrassments which they had improvident-