

## EXPLANATION OF MR. THOMAS.

That the true nature of a transaction, concerning which Mr Robert Barnard has made affidavit, before the internal improvement committee of the House of Delegates, may be understood, I have to request, that the committee will have published with the other testimony taken, two tabular statements, accompanying this, marked A & B.

That the motive for making this request may be seen, a few words of explanation are necessary.

The affidavit of Mr. Barnard is calculated to make the impression, that he could not with propriety, have signed the tabular statement appended to the letter of the President of the canal company, addressed to Governor Grason, and dated February 10, 1840. of which statement B is a copy.

It appears from the certificate of the clerk to the committee, that the statement marked A, is a true copy of a paper on file in the canal office, in the hand writing of Mr. Barnard. By comparison of these two statements, it will be perceived, that the only material difference in their character is to be found in their caption.

Statement A is headed, "Statement showing what the 5 per cent bonds of the State of Maryland might have produced in Baltimore funds at the respective dates of the sale,—if the exchange between New York and London, and between Baltimore and New York had been realised. When the statement with this caption, was shown to the undersigned, he proposed to Mr. Barnard to change the caption for the one which is to be seen on statement B. This Mr. Barnard declined to do, saying that he would not sign the table if the proposed change was made. The undersigned then said, make the change, and I am willing to be considered responsible.

It is not easy to discover why Mr. Barnard attached so much importance to this matter when it occurred; neither is the reason very obvious, for making it a matter of grave investigation by the committee.

The caption on the paper, marked B appears to the undersigned to be a better description of it than the one Mr. Barnard has, and is so tenacious about. The tabular statement contains several columns of figures; one showing the disposition made of the 5 per cent sterling bonds; another, the value of the nett proceeds of the sales in specie: and another showing the equivalent value of the money for which these bonds were sold, in Baltimore current bank notes. And the caption in-