

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the committee of the House of Delegates, appointed to enquire, among other things, whether "the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal company have forfeited their charter," which committee have been invested with power, to send for persons and papers.

GENTLEMEN:—The moment the Directors of the above named Company, heard of the appointment of the committee, they immediately, without knowing the extent of power granted to the committee, requested their President to proceed to the city of Annapolis, for the purpose of learning the nature of the charges made against the company, and to take the necessary steps to remove as far as might be in his power, the cause, or supposed cause of complaint.

Since my arrival here, to wit: on the 24th instant, I have received from the committee five interrogatories, which would have been immediately answered, but from an unavoidable delay in sending to Philadelphia for the necessary documents.

The interrogatories are as follows, viz:

1. State the amount of toll charged on each passenger, going through the canal, during the years 1840, 1841, 1842 and 1843, and if any change was made in the charges, during any of those years; state the time and amount of said change, and the cause thereof?

2. State the clause in the charter, or any of the supplements thereto, which authorises the canal company to charge toll on passengers?

3. Has the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company entered into any agreement or contract, with the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Rail Road Company, or any other company, within the last three years, relative to tolls on said canal, and if so, furnish copies of said contracts or agreements?

4. Did or did not the said canal company enter into an agreement, during the year 1842, with a steam boat company, to run boats through the canal, and if so, was said agreement cancelled by all the parties thereto?

5. State the number of passengers who passed through the canal monthly, from the time of the establishment of the line of steam boats, which runs through the canal up to the present time?

In proceeding, Gentlemen, to answer the foregoing interrogatories, I must ask permission to change the order in which they stand.

1. During the years 1840 and 1841, there were no passengers going through the canal, nor in 1842, until after the 1st of August; after which time, and up to the 25th day of July, 1843, a part of the passengers were carried through the canal free of any charge to the owners of the boats, and on the number over 20 per day to each boat, they were required to pay twenty-five cents on every such passenger which they carried through, and since the 25th day of July, 1843, they have paid the canal company one dollar an