

um; she has found her resources continually melting away under her growing demands and necessities; and she has discovered that her population is stationary in some parts, and declining in others. During that period the mortifying contrast between her own condition, and that of some of her sister states on the Atlantic, has been continually forced upon her. She has seen them advancing in wealth, population and resources, in a degree greater than that in which she has retrograded, and thus reducing her to a state of yet more painful inferiority. And to enhance this, she has seen states of the Union starting up in what a very short time since was the trackless wilderness of the west, and already outstripping her in all that gives consequence and power in the national government. This she has been brought to perceive and to feel; and she has been put upon the enquiry for its causes. In making that enquiry she has found herself possessed of local advantages which, if properly cultivated, entitle her to the first rank amongst the Atlantic states; and she has discovered within her own bosom, latent and undeveloped resources, which it is only necessary to quicken into life and activity, to give ample employment to all her population, to diffuse throughout it wealth and content, and to relieve her from every financial difficulty. It has become manifest to her, that she is impoverished in the midst of untouched resources, and that every day of delay, in availing herself of them, does but enhance her difficulties.

The local advantages of that portion of her territory watered by the Chesapeake bay, were such as to leave her but little to accomplish in that quarter; and her efforts were required principally for the purpose of securing to herself the trade of the west and north, by some mode of improvement connecting Baltimore with the Ohio river, and at the same time of relieving from the difficulties, delays and expense of their present intercourse with that or their accustomed market, her fertile, extensive, and populous western counties. Having this double object in view, she has entered heartily into the projects which have been set on foot by public-spirited individuals, for continuous canals from Baltimore to the Ohio, by the Potomac and Susquehannah routes; and she has given such an earnest of efficient aid in the accomplishment of both of these most desirable objects, as will, it is hoped, soon lead to their accomplishment. With reference to these, she now only waits the co-operation of those, without whose aid she cannot progress. Her subscriptions for these purposes were originally clogged with many restrictions, but at the last session of assembly several changes were made, both as to the manner and terms of the state appropriations, which it is believed have met the views, and fully gratified the wishes of the friends and promoters of both. The subscription to the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, which as originally made, was particularly cumbered with these restrictions; since the ascertainment by actual survey of the practicability of a continuous canal by that route, and since the passage of the law of the last session, removing some of these restrictions, has now no prerequisite, and now depends for its efficacy only on a previous subscription of one million of dol-