

tion should the method be prescribed by which the president and directors shall be selected? Who for it shall name these officers?

The State of Maryland must declare who shall act for it in this capacity, and he said it should be declared in the constitution. It always had been declared in the constitution since 1851. The board of public works, under the constitution of 1851, declared who should be the president and directors in the canal, because, voting the majority of the stock it was equivalent to this. Under the constitution of 1864 this power was also devolved upon the board of public works. Without quoting precedent, he thought he could be able to show that the constitution was the proper place. What more important matter should be settled in the fundamental law of the State than the selection of officers in the work in which the State had such immense interest?

Passing from the first question, the next was whether the mode now prescribed was the proper one. He, and those from whom he descended, had been identified with the State of Maryland from its foundation, and he had no other hopes than those which would redound to her welfare and prosperity. Remarks had been made of the influence of the lobby, but he had heard nothing from any one outside of the Convention than what was necessary to throw light on the subject. He did not say that this third section should not be amended, but he did say that the welfare and true interest of the State of Maryland required that this work should be given into the control of private parties. Under the present provision the board of public works, voting the majority of the stock, had the control of the canal, and at any time could change the officers; and as the board consisted of the Governor, the Comptroller and the Treasurer, the two latter officers elected every two years, the whole policy of the canal was liable to be changed every two years, and no prosperity could be expected but from some degree of permanence in the management. The president of the company knows that his tenure of office is only for two years, and he dare not look beyond that; it is the same way with the superintendent, he knows that his tenure does not depend upon his fidelity or economy, but only on the slim tenure of