

plenary power in this matter, as occasions might and did arise where the interests of the company would be enhanced if its officers had this power.

The State of Pennsylvania had built lines of canals reaching five hundred miles at a cost of \$30,000,000 and, in 1859, the evils of political management had become so apparent that Pennsylvania sold out her whole interest at the immense sacrifice of \$3,500,000 to private parties, on such terms that a beggar could buy.

In reply to the fears of the action of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Mr. D. maintained that the only competition between these two works would be a healthy one. If the existence of the canal was struck out, it would not in any material degree benefit the railroad. The true interest of the State was to foster both of these great works.

Mr. Kilbourn asked if the canal with which the gentleman was connected was controlled by the private stockholders, and whether it paid.

Mr. Dobbin said the canal, the Susquehanna and Tidewater, was controlled exclusively by its own directors, six of whom lived in Baltimore and six in Philadelphia. The State of Maryland had loaned it a million, on which, he was happy to say, the interest was regularly paid, but the State had no voice in its direction.

Mr. D. then gave a history of this canal from its inception to the present time, and said it was now in a prosperous condition, paying its obligations regularly, and he thought in a short time would pay a dividend to the stockholders.

Mr. Archer was happy to hear that the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal was now paying the interest due the State, although, as the gentleman had stated, it had not been paid at certain periods, and as he (Mr. A.) supposed, when the company was in a condition to pay it. In view of such facts, he had an amendment to this section which would prevent anything of this kind. As it now stood there was a facility for a misappropriation of the funds of the company for two years, to the injury of the State of Maryland, and this he proposed to obviate. He desired to express his views on this matter before a