

THURSDAY, March 17, 1870.

The House met and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Swope.

Present at the call of the roll, the following members:

Messrs. Latrobe, (Speaker,) Loker, Martin, Beck, Wilmer, Kilbourn, Baldwin, of Anne Arundel, Owings, Duke, Mitchell, Chapman, Shipley, Choate, Turner, Hammond, Hardcastle, of Talbot, Brattan, Lankford, Woolford, Touchstone, Owens, Richards, Biddle, Marbury, Wootton, Duval, Thomas, of Queen Anne's, Brown, Dennis, Purnell, Thomas, of Frederick, Bowlus, McCreery, Ritter, White, Ady, Hopkins, Garey, Sanner, Hamilton, Cooper, Morse, Blake, Webb, Wilson, of Baltimore city, Wiley, McLane, Colton, Kirk, Ehlen, Gardner, Markland, Marshall, Hoblitzell, Neill, Welty, Sword, Hilton, Watkins, Kean, Standish, Myers, Percy, Shower, Winters, Crouse, Merrick, Gorman and Crawford—69.

The Speaker laid before the House the following communication from the Board of Public Works, in response to an order of the House:

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Annapolis, March 16, 1870.

Hon. F. C. Latrobe,

Speaker of the House of Delegates:

In compliance with the following order, passed the House of Delegates on the 14th inst., to wit:

"Ordered, That the Board of Public Works be requested to inform this House whether, in their opinion, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company can legally carry into effect the resolution of the stockholders of said Company, passed at their last meeting, providing for funding the overdue and unpaid coupons on the bonds known as preferred bonds and repair bonds, and how the interest of the State would be affected by carrying the same into effect, and what, if any, steps have been taken by them to protect the interests of the State in relation thereto—"

The undersigned respectfully state, that upon careful investigation of the subject, and after obtaining the opinion of the Attorney General, in relation to the powers of the Canal Company, we have come to the conclusion that the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company cannot legally carry the said resolution into effect.