

ment of a navy-yard in the city of Baltimore.”

The opinions and wishes of the general assembly, indicated by the aforesaid resolutions, doubtless received from all the gentlemen to whom they were addressed, the respectful attention and consideration to which they were justly entitled.

The subject of the resolution, (No. 11,) is so very important, and opens to the imagination such sublime views and prospects of the immense and incalculable benefits, to be derived from the adoption and vigorous prosecution of a judicious system, embracing all those great schemes of improvement, which from their magnitude most appropriately belong to the sphere of action of the general government, (leaving to the respective states, the accomplishment of such *local* improvements, as may be required by their wants, and, within the achievement of their more limited means,) that we cherish the hope, and entertain the belief, that such a system will be adopted, at no distant period.

We are aware that the authority over this subject, asserted by the general assembly to be constitutionally vested in congress, is denied and strenuously contested, by many distinguished statesmen of the day; who entertain the opinion that the power cannot be exercised without a violation of the rights of the states. With all the respect for this opinion that a personal acquaintance with, and the fullest