

bring to bear upon the corporation which has proved thus regardless of her wishes?

Though chiefly negative, your committee think that power neither questionable nor small.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company has laid before the Legislature of Maryland, an application for further pecuniary aid. Under any circumstances, it is probable that it would be thought that Maryland had already made sufficient contribution to a work which, though passing over her territory, is in its operation expected, principally to promote the growth and prosperity of the District of Columbia; but after the course pursued in regard to the resolution of the last General Assembly, the application must be considered as still more unreasonable. The committee will say no more on that head, being persuaded that the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company itself can have no expectation of a further grant of money from the State of Maryland.

Upon the subject of extending the privilege of selling surplus water, to the Canal Company, the committee will not speak in this connexion, believing that privilege to be one, which on higher grounds than mere expediency, the state could not, if it would, and ought not if it could grant away. It shall be presently but seperately discussed.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company in the same memorial, speaks of the 10th of October next, as the expiration of the 5th year from the commencement of their work, and repeatedly informs the Legislature that it does not ask, nay, has expressly determined that it will not ask, an extension of the period of five years limited in the charter for the completion of one hundred miles of their canal, alleging that by operation of law without the aid of the Legislature, they are entitled to the further term of three and a half years. These assertions require to be noticed, lest the silence of the Legislature should hereafter be insisted on as evidence of consent.

Your committee understands it to be matter of public notoriety, that the work was formally and legally commenced on the fourth day of July 1828, and were proof of the fact wanted, think it may be found abundantly in the first report of the canal company; consequently the term of five years will expire on the fourth day of July next, and whether the legal delay will exempt the company from the operation of the limitation in their charter, is a legal question, of which your committee would advise a reference to the