

at the cost of about four millions of dollars, which sum is but little, if any more than its estimated expense; and that by the construction of this work, the further distance of 75 miles, which may be done at an additional cost of about one million and a half of dollars, a line of Canal will be completed from tide water to Cumberland, in the midst of a region abounding with bituminous Coal of the very best quality and inexhaustible extent, that would immediately yield from tolls to be derived thereon, income enough to pay more than the simple interest of the whole cost of said Canal;—And whereas, it also appears to us, that the rapidly increasing Commerce of the WEST, proceeding along the Lakes and the Vallies of the Missouri, Mississippi and Ohio, by artificial ways to and from the Atlantic cities, will at all times, and the operations of our State and National Governments will especially in times of War, imperiously require the use of as many avenues as can be improved, and as great facilities as can be provided for the transportation of persons and things between the Western and Eastern portions of this Union, and particularly along the central course of this Canal, which in its whole line will ever be free from foreign violence, and is shorter and for a greater period of the year is less obstructed by ice than any more northern work;—And whereas, it also appears, that the value of the vast national domain beyond the Allegany Mountains, and the large portion of the City of Washington still owned by the Nation, would be greatly enhanced by facilitating and cheapening the intercourse between the West and the East; and the expenses of the United States' Government, and of those who administer it, would be much diminished, by the great reduction which, so soon as this Canal shall be finished to Cumberland, will occur in the price of the fuel required and used in large and increasing quantities for the public works at Harpers-Ferry and the Navy-Yard, and for the Public Offices, Hotels and private establishments near the Capitol, all placed by the Constitution under the exclusive control, and therefore entitled to the fostering care of the national authorities; and as in fact “no State
 “in the Union; not one of its many markets; nor any branch of its
 “industry, whether it speed the plough, or spread the sail, or ply at
 “home the shuttle or the hammer; whether its activity be exerted on
 “land or sea, to the North or South, the East or West, is without an
 “interest in the accomplishment of this National Work”—and as the funds heretofore subscribed for its accomplishment have been quite