

more certain, than that our population doubles in about twenty years, the trade and business increasing probably in a ratio still greater.

“In twenty years, our present number of twelve millions will be twenty five. In less than half a century we shall number in this republic not less than fifty millions of souls. In our day and generation, the great channels of trade are found to be abundantly productive, but, based upon inexhaustible supplies, and sustained by demands geometrically augmenting what calculations will not fall short of the benefits and revenues we shall provide for generations yet to come, by a provident investment of the means of the State, sufficient for the completion of the incomparable works, which it is the laudable pride of Maryland already to have undertaken, and will be her greater pride to have completed!

“W. T. WOOTTON, *Chairman.*”

The testimony of engineer Fisk before that committee, which has been published, accounts, in the most satisfactory manner, for the discrepancies between his estimates and those previously made, and for the adoption of a level differing from that of Mr. Cruger. At that session a bill was introduced, embodying a variety of objects, and not exclusively of internal improvement; containing, however, a provision for a subscription to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company of \$3,000,000. The Legislature adjourned without adopting the measure, and appointed to meet again on the fourth Monday of May, to decide on these important questions. On that day it again convened, when a report was made by a minority of the investigating committee, in which grounds are assumed, in relation to the application of the money loaned by the State to the company, which are not sustained by the facts or evidence submitted to the committee. It is stated in that report that \$879,000 have been applied to purposes not contemplated by the act granting the loan, viz: the payment of debts, repairs, and improvements on the canal below dam No. 5; and, to make out this enormous sum as being misapplied, even our deposits in bank, which the evidence of our clerk showed, at the time of the examination, to amount to \$2,55,074 47, are included, to swell the amount of money assumed to have been misapplied.