

with a detail of facts and many interesting speculations and suggestions in relation to the Penitentiary system and the general subject of criminal punishment, which appear to us to be made with much ability, and in a candid and liberal spirit. This subject being one of great importance will, of course, engage the serious attention of every one which it justly merits.

The communication from John C. Erickson Esquire, the commissioner, and John H. Alexander Esquire, the Engineer, on the part of this State, for surveying the coast between Cape Charles and Lewis Town Beach, on the Bay of Delaware, will afford you all the information in our possession in relation to that survey.

All the other minor matters of business committed to our charge by the Legislature, have received our attention, and been executed or the necessary steps taken to carry into effect the wishes of the General Assembly.

A vacancy having occurred in the Representation of this State, in the Senate of the United States, occasioned by the resignation of the Honorable Ezekiel F. Chambers, we invite your attention to the subject with a view to prompt action on your part. There seeming to be no imperious necessity for filling the vacancy by the Executive, and the Legislature being soon to convene, we deemed it advisable and respectful to leave the selection to you, on whom, under any circumstances the appointment would, ultimately, devolve.

It gives us much pleasure to announce to you the opening of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road, as far as Harpers Ferry, for travel and transportation. This great work, now the most extensive of the kind on this side the Atlantic, long prosecuted with untiring zeal and signal ability and fidelity, on the part of those immediately charged with its construction, has at length reached a point which justifies the expectation that it will cease to be burthensome to the Treasury of the State, or the individual Citizens who have embarked their capital in the enterprise, indeed it is believed we may calculate with confidence on receiving into the Treasury, in future, from that source, a fair return for the large capital expended in its construction. Should this anticipation be realized, we shall have to acknowledge ourselves indebted to the projectors of the scheme, for the prosecution of a work of incalculable advantage to the agriculture, commerce, and manufactures of the State, and the work itself will stand a lasting monument to the liberal and enlightened policy of the State, and a perpetual blessing to ourselves and to posterity.

In immediate connection with this work, and not less interesting to the State, is the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, but we regret to say that its prospects, for early completion, are not, at this time, so flattering, as could be desired. This magnificent enterprise has been prosecuted to completion through more than an hundred miles of its course with talents and zeal never surpassed, and in a manner to command admiration, but it has not yet reached the first great source of the immense traffic destined, ultimately, to be borne upon its bosom - the coal mines of Allegany - and now the available funds, the company, in