

Annual to the punctual payment of the State tax, not only by their obligation to sustain the public faith,
 (page) but also by their knowledge that they are thereby paying off the debt itself, and gradually relieving themselves from the burthen, which it now imposes upon them. The Citizens of Maryland now fully comprehend, not only their duty, but also their interest, in reference to this subject, and they will not in future, look with indifference, to the non-payment of the State tax, by any portion of their fellow-Citizens. They see, that the due observance of the revenue laws by all is not more essential to the credit of the State, than to their own interests, and will no longer submit to the injury, which the non-payment of the tax by any part of the Community, would inflict upon the State & themselves.

The other subject to which I have adverted, is one in which the people of Maryland are more deeply interested than in any other, which will claim your attention in the State debt has been incurred, exclusively by her investments in her various works of internal improvement, and I now propose with your indulgence, to invite your consideration of her investment in such of those works, as may be made to yield an increased revenue by proper legislative action on your part. I have prepared for your convenience a tabular statement showing the amount invested by the State as unpreferred stockholder, and as creditor & preferred stockholder, in each of the four works of internal improvement, to which I shall call your attention, and also the amount of interest paid on her investment in each beyond the amount received from them respectively.

For investment in the Baltimore & Ohio R. Road Co. as unpreferred stockholder	\$500,000.00	
For investment in Washington Branch of said Road as unpreferred stockholder	\$550,000.00	\$1,050,000.00
For investment in Balt & Chesapeake R. Road Co. as unpreferred stockholder	\$100,000.00	
As preferred Creditor	\$2,132,145.00	
For preferred claims for interest paid above amount received from them	\$773,100.00	\$2,905,045.00
		\$3,015,045.00
For investment in Chesapeake & Tide Water Canal Co. as preferred Creditor	\$1,192,500.00	
For interest not paid by those Companies	64,750.00	\$1,257,250.00
For investment in Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, as unpreferred stockholder	\$622,000.00	
As preferred Creditor & stockholder	\$6,572,666.67	
Preferred Claim for interest paid by the State	\$2,531,068.00	\$9,103,734.67
		9,725,734.67
Making the aggregate amount paid by the State in aid of those four Companies	\$15,038,029.67	

The annual report of the Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road Co., which is forewith transmitted, will give you a detailed account of its present condition, & future prospects. As this company has never availed itself of the conditional subscription to its stock, authorized by the Act of May Session, 1836, Chapter 395; I have assumed (as you will perceive by the tabular statement above submitted) that the State is only interested to the amount of her anterior subscriptions to the main stem & Washington branch of that road.

Although the dividends which the State has received upon her stock in this company have not been equal to the interest paid by the State on the money borrowed for that investment, it is proper to remark, that the tax of the one fifth of the gross receipts for passengers on the Washington Branch of the road, imposed at my instance by the 8th section of the Act of 1832, Chapter, 175; has more than met that deficiency in the dividends heretofore declared, and that the States investment in the stock of this company, is the only one, which has hitherto yielded a revenue, equal to the interest on the investment. This company is therefore entitled on that account to your most favourable consideration, and to all the assistance which you can