

and Directors, with the consent of any proprietor, to buy, on reasonable terms, the entire estate when so divided, and afterwards to hold, let, or otherwise dispose of it, on such terms as to exclude the necessity of any pass-way over the canal.

Regarding the preceding as a single purpose, involving several means for its perfect attainment, without private injury, the undersigned beg leave to add, that since the charter of the company was completed, they have conceived it expedient, and such has been the unanimous sentiment of the stockholders, to release the restraints imposed on the sale or letting of water power, along the margin of the canal.

Having, in several places to resort to the main river for water, they therefore ask of your honorable body permission to sell or let, for prescribed manufacturing uses, any surplus water, which they may conduct by feeders into the canal for that purpose, as well as that which unavoidably gains admission, and the present charter allows them to let. (*)

For similar reasons, to promote the public benefit, cheapen the cost, and enhance the profits of their works, they ask like permission to sell or let on the heavy embankment which they may find necessary to form, for the moles or piers adjacent to their basins upon or at the termination of their canal, sites for houses of any description. This innocent power, if not now possessed by the company, would enable the undersigned to repay the cost of imparting additional strength to works, from their nature exposed to hazard, and attended with heavy cost in their cheapest construction

Lastly, the undersigned ask of your honorable body such an amendment or explanation of the laws of Maryland, relative to the use of Virginia slaves on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, passed on behalf of the late Potomac Company, as shall enable the contrac-

(*) It will be seen that Pennsylvania has, with judicious foresight, conceded what is now asked of your honorable body, and which, if granted, will be used in the spirit of its concession, without injury to the navigation of the Canal.