

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled :

The memorial of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company respectfully represents,—

That, shortly after the close of the last session of Congress, a general meeting of the stockholders was held, at which the undersigned were duly elected President and Directors of the Company. They proceeded, under the charter which had been granted by the Congress of the United States, the states of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania and confirmed by the assent of the Potomac Company, to execute the trust reposed in them.

In the progress of this duty, it became, in the opinion of the undersigned, expedient, for the preservation of harmony among the principal subscribers, to convene a second general meeting of the company, in order to fix, definitively, the eastern termination of the canal within the District of Columbia.

Accordingly, a meeting, after due notice, was held for that and other purposes, by a very large majority in interest of the stockholders, in the City Hall of Washington, who, after much deliberation, adopted the resolutions which, along with a copy of such part of the proceedings of the general meeting as relate thereto, are annexed to this memorial.—(See A.)

The Attorney General of the United States having, on due consultation, pronounced the opinion required by the resolutions to give effect to the decision of the company, that their charter authorised the termination of the main stem of the canal in the manner proposed and sanctioned by the concurrent voice of a large majority of the stockholders, the obligation devolved upon the President and Directors to present to your honorable bodies a memorial, requesting such aid as to your wisdom may seem expedient, towards the extension of a canal from some suitable point upon the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, to Alexandria; in the District of Columbia; and towards the construction of another canal from the main stem to the Navy Yard of the United States, on the Eastern Branch, at the level of the Potomac river, at the head of the Little Falls.—[See B.]

The duty, thus charged upon the undersigned President and Directors, cannot well be performed without advert-
ing to the considerations which led them to recommend