

ed beg leave to refer the committee, to the tables accompanying this communication, and prepared, since the reception of the letter of their chairman.

To defray the expense of the work in Georgetown, exclusive of the locks, the president and directors rely on the sale of the mole erected across the mouth of Rock creek; to the construction of which, the far greater part of the earth from the deep cut, in Georgetown, has been applied. The mole has a double front; towards the river Potomac, on the one side; and on the other, towards the basin. It is a solid embankment, more than 1050 feet long and 160 feet broad, affording space enough for two water streets of forty feet each, with one intervening line of ware houses. eighty feet deep, fronting them. Across this artificial isthmus, the produce of the country will find its way, from the canal boats, by which it has descended from above, to the ships, which are destined to transport it to the market of the consumer, at the least possible expense of time or money. In like manner, by the return cargoes of those boats, the wants of the country will be supplied. Between this basin and the Tyber a further extension of the canal will reach and embrace the market of Washington.

Strong objections were entertained, to the extension of the canal to this basin; but the very end of any canal, is to substitute, for human labour, a cheaper propelling power. The single horse which draws a boat of thirty tons burthen, while he moves along the tow-path of a canal, must consequently stop, where that tow-path ceases; and, if this be short of the destination of the cargo, that must be transhipped and subjected to delays, accidents and charges, more than commensurate with the cost of extending the canal to the intended markets.

The basin at the extremity of a canal is an appendage to its entire line, rather to any part of it: and chargeable, therefore, upon no particular section or division of it. It is, to the canal boat, what a capacious harbour is to the sea vessel, and requires a space for its construction, which could nowhere, above Georgetown, have been so cheaply or advantageously obtained, as at the mouth of Rock creek. Although the excitement which this termination of the canal once occasioned, has now passed away, it is deemed a suitable occasion, for this brief exposition of a part of the views which led to its adoption, by a large majority of the stockholders, in gene-