

The president of the company Mr. Eaton, had proposed to me to advise and solicit professionally, the aid which it desired to obtain from the General Assembly. But I refused to accept his offer—preferring under all the circumstances that marked my official relations to that company, and especially to himself, not to accept any compensation from it, for services that I might render, as its solicitor.

He subsequently proposed to me that the company should requite the services I had rendered it, but I replied that I could not receive from it any compensation. He then proposed that my personal expenses should be defrayed whilst I was at Annapolis, as I had there constantly advocated its interests: this, too, I declined. Afterwards and not long before he retired from the presidency of the company, as he had pre-determined to do, if the United States government did not amply patronize the work—referring to the time and efforts that I was bestowing to secure the success of the canal company, and thereby the prosperity of Maryland, and of the adjoining and western States—and then, adverting to the age and pursuits of my two oldest sons, he offered to obtain their admission at West Point, through the kindness of his friends of those States, as the number of cadets from the State of Maryland was at all times equal to its quota; but this friendly offer, I also declined to accept, upon the same considerations that had governed me, in refusing to be compensated for any services that I had rendered to the company.

At the same session, resolutions were offered by Wm. D. Merrick, proposing to instruct the senators of this State in the congress of the United States, and to request the representatives, to use their best exertions to obtain from congress, such a liberal appropriation to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, as should at least insure its completion as far as Cumberland; and giving the assurance that Maryland would efficiently co-operate, by extending further pecuniary aid, to the utmost extent justified by her fiscal means, and her other duties to her citizens; which resolutions were adopted,—see House Journal, folio 370,—and sent to the Senate—were returned amended, by striking out the pledge of further aid from the State—assented to, and then being adopted, became resolution No. 64, of 1833.

When I consented to a change being made in the administration of the canal company, I hoped that adequate aid would be obtained for its work to Cumberland from the United States government; still that hope was qualified by apprehensions of disappointment. Nevertheless, as the removal of avowed objections to the approval of such grant of aid, on the part of the President of the United States, could alone give to any application of the company for national succour, a chance of success, I felt that it was imperatively my duty to the State of Maryland, to favor that removal—being convinced, as I was and have already mentioned, by representations received from many most respectable individuals, that he had expressed the wish and purpose to advise and