

ed enough on the subject. Let all you have to say, be your own. Talk to Ingle—he will point out the defects which it is thought, the bill contains—yet let me charge one thing—let nothing be attempted that cannot pass. Even if the bill acted upon, shall never be accepted; yet to know, that *Maryland* has done *something* expressive of good will, may have an influence here; and *that* we should be loth to lose.

Be health and happiness yours, respectfully,

J. H. EATON.'

But aid from Congress was sought in vain, and Mr. Eaton believing that such aid could not be obtained—soon afterwards, resigned the Presidency of the company, as he had pre-determined to do, under such circumstances: and, the question then arose, who should be his successor?

Before I proceed further, however, I will bring to your view—

*First*—The act passed by the State of New York, in 1811, directing its canal commissioners to apply to Congress for aid to construct the Erie and Hudson canal—see 'New York canals,' vol. 1, p. 70.

'An act to provide for the improvement of the internal navigation of the State.'  
PASSED *April 8th*, 1811.

'Whereas, a communication by means of a canal navigation between the great lakes and Hudson's river will encourage agriculture, promote commerce and manufactures, facilitate a free and general intercourse between different parts of the United States, and tend to the aggrandizement and prosperity of the country, and consolidate and strengthen the Union—therefore,

'I. *Be it enacted by the people of the State of New York represented in Senate and Assembly*, That Gouverneur Morris, Stephen Van Rensselaer, De Witt Clinton, Simeon De Witt, William North, Thomas Eddy, Peter B. Porter, Robert R. Livingston, and Robert Fulton, shall be and hereby are appointed commissioners for the consideration of all matters relating to the said inland navigation; and in case of the resignation or death of any of the said commissioners, the vacancy shall be supplied by the person administering the government of this State.

'II. *And be it further enacted*, That the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall be and hereby are empowered to make application in behalf of this State to the Congress of the United States or the Legislature of any state or territory, to co-operate and aid in this undertaking, and also to the proprietors of the land through which such navigation may be carried, for cessions or grants to the people of this state, to be received by the said commissioners, in their discretion; and also to ascertain whether loans can be procured on advantageous terms on the credit of this state for the purpose aforesaid, and the terms on which the West