

Baltimore, 13th July, 1836.

GENTLEMEN,—The President of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, having informed me by letter bearing date the 8th instant, that several propositions would be submitted to you on behalf of said company, in order to secure, if possible, the acceptance of the aid recently proffered by Maryland to both companies—and having also, by another letter, bearing date the 12th instant, apprised me that you had rejected said propositions or overture and declined entering into any arrangements previous to the expected acceptance of the law which offers said aid—and that he fears and believes this decision, if persisted in, will render that law nugatory to your company, by preventing its acceptance on the part of the corporation over which he presides—these circumstances seem to make it my duty as a representative of the interests of this State, in the general meetings of both corporations, that must act upon these matters, most respectfully to advise the immediate appointment of a committee of your board, with authority and instructions to confer with a committee from theirs, and to make such arrangements as may be found materially satisfactory with reference to the several subjects of the aforesaid propositions.

The letter first herein mentioned suggested the expediency of such a course being originally pursued, but owing to my absence from this city, I did not receive it until after you had acted on the aforesaid propositions. But as the last of those letters does not recall that suggestion, I am still entitled to submit it to your consideration and to advise its being now adopted by you, under the assurance which I hereby give that this course will be met by the President and Directors of said canal company with an earnest desire to make such arrangements as will obviate every cause of difficulty in the acceptance or execution of that law.

Truly friendly to both companies, and enjoined, as I am by official duty, to promote the well being of each, I most anxiously wish that all who have been called to manage their affairs may severally do whatsoever shall be at any time within their power, respectively, to fulfil the just hopes of their constituents and of this State, which *I know*, can be alone gratified and accomplished by the harmonious action of these companies: united, the friends of those improvements are strong; but divided, either would be found too weak to overcome its adversaries. And since harmony is necessary to the success of either, I cannot but hope that the rulers of each will do all that they can to produce and preserve it—if that disposition had not prevailed at the recent sessions, no act for the aid of either could have been passed—and hereafter, it will be found more necessary than ever. If the present offer of the State be rejected, I believe that no other will be made to either company—and that each will linger out the term limited for their completion, and expire by reversion to the State—and feeling