

interests, the pressing expediency of prosecuting to completion the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal would not be questioned for a moment, when so small an additional expenditure is necessary to finish the twenty miles of work remaining undone within so limited a time as two years. By stern perseverance in the prosecution of her system of internal improvements, and by a steady adherence to a wise policy, the great State of New York has perfected an enterprise of stupendous magnitude, and has surmounted difficulties of appalling force. She has broken down the barriers which nature had interposed between the waters of the great lakes and the Atlantic, and "by increasing her population and her power, and adding countless millions to the wealth of her people and emporium, she has created a revenue derived from her canal sufficient to discharge the ordinary expenses of her government, and has dearly but richly won the proud title of the Empire State. And why shall Maryland hesitate by one more effort to realise similar advantages by the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, proved by the clearest testimony to be decidedly superior, being a much shorter, more direct, and central communication from the Atlantic to the West, and possessing in the coal trade, a perpetual and inexhaustible source of profit in addition to all those enjoyed on the New York canal?" There is a source of wealth and prosperity connected with abundant supplies of coal infinitely transcending the mere profits derived from the transportation of minerals, upon which your committee would willingly dwell if the limits of their report would permit. Whether we direct our attention to the coal regions and markets of Britain, or of this country, to Wales or to Pennsylvania, to Sheffield or to Pittsburg, the vast accession to active capital, the rapid increase of arts, trades, population, enterprise, and manufactures, and of all the great agents of domestic comfort, public prosperity, and national resources, all these weighty considerations present inducements well worthy of the deliberate reflection of the representatives of a free people. And as there is no unmixed evil, the very derangement of our finances which now engrosses our attention, has sprung from a cause which makes the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal no longer the object of sectional jealousy, but an enterprise of vital consequence to every county of the State, the speedy and successful consummation of which is equally important to all. To levy a tax upon the people and not remove the cause of that taxation—to postpone