

**Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.** Such a state of things cannot be productive, under any circumstances, of consequences other than destructive, both to the honor and credit of the State which tolerates them. Had the finances of the State been more steadily guarded, the various works of Internal Improvement more thoroughly understood, instead of the present distressing condition of things, it is fair to presume, that the credit of the State would have been preserved, and the present generation relieved from the unpleasant task of taxing not only its, but the industry of many generations yet to come, to provide for the punctual payment of the interest accruing on the public debt so unwisely and imprudently contracted.

It is to be regretted, as all history demonstrates, that in all ages and countries, the interests of the great body of the people have been made subsidiary to the avaricious views of hungry speculators, who never fail to infest every region; and it is also cause of deep regret, that by trickery and management this class of persons have uniformly succeeded in acquiring and exerting over the deliberations of the legislature an influence, destructive of the best interests of the great mass of the people. To this class of persons are we mainly indebted for the evils of the Banking system, under which the people now groan in agony. It was they who true to their instincts, first plundered the needy soldier of the revolution, and then by the means of a factitious public opinion, coerced the first Secretary of the Treasury into the recommendation of the establishment in this country, of an institution similar to the Bank of England.— Their success in this instance, gave them an influence over the public affairs, which they have never ceased rigorously to exercise. To this class are we also mainly indebted for the wild and visionary *system* of Internal Improvements which has, or is about to, eventuate in the utter prostration of the credit, finances and prosperity of the State. Such was the excitement produced by the myriad of harpies who are ever eager to prey on the industry of the people, that the sober voice of reason was drowned amidst their constant clamour, and the individual who had independence enough to question the propriety of the proceedings instituted and consummated for their benefit, was sure to provoke for himself the abuse of the press, which, but in few instances, was under their control. Did the laborer protest—he was informed he had nothing to do with it, as upon him would not devolve any portion of the burden in any contin-