

A question has lately arisen between the Treasurer of the State and Commissioner of Loans, as to the amount of bonds to be issued to the company. This statement is based upon the amount supposed by the commissioner to be correct, but if the treasurer is correct in his opinion, then the amount of bonds in the hands of the trustees, will be £1,800 less than as now exhibited, and the deficiency of means will be so much increased.

No account is taken of the exchange on London on the amount of money supposed to be there, because it will be fully balanced by commissioner and other charges there.

*2nd Interrogatory.*—State whether in the appointment of officers of the Canal Company, particular political opinions of those spoken of, was considered by the Board or any of them as essential prerequisites; and also, whether there were any removals on account of political opinions?

*Answer.*—I have been clerk of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company from its organization in 1828, until the time of my resignation in July, 1840. Up to the time of the election of Mr. Thomas, in June, 1839, I never knew a question to be made by the Board or the President in regard to the political opinions of any person spoken of for office, nor yet of any person offering for contracts. During the time of the second President of the company, a letter was received, recommending some individual for office, and saying that he was a supporter of the then President of the United States. The letter was read, and being regarded by the President and the Board as out of place, no notice was taken of it.

The present President of the company has avowed that particular political opinions are an essential prerequisite for office, and I am constrained to say, that in removals and appointments, he has, in my opinion, had more regard to these opinions, than to the proper qualifications of those who have been appointed.

On the 10th of June, 1840, I notified the Board, that as soon as my accounts, then in the hands of a committee of the stockholders, should be passed upon, I should resign the office of clerk. About the 1st of July, a director of the company called on me at the office, as he said by desire of the President, to see what were the particular duties of the clerk, as he, the President, was desirous that he, the director, should accept the office which I was then about to resign. On the morning of the next meeting of the Board, this gentleman informed the President that he