

made during the year 1840, in the officers of said company, and the causes of the removals and changes." Extracts from the journal of the directors, showing the acts of the board on that subject, are in the appendix. That they may be understood, a few words of explanation are necessary."

I have looked over the "extracts from the journal of the directors" to which the President refers, as "showing the acts of the board" on the subject of removals and changes—and find that several important acts of the board on that subject are omitted. To these omissions, attention will be more particularly called in the course of this reply.

The President says: "I will state the facts in the case and the principles upon which I have acted, without reserve, and apprehend that in so doing, a satisfactory response to the enquiry of the house will be given. There were, when a change was made by the stockholders in the direction in June, 1839, in the employment of the canal company, 118 officers, whose annual compensation amounted to \$70,636. There are now in the employment of the company, 61 officers, at an annual compensation of \$36,500. From these facts, it will be perceived, that 57 offices have been abolished." After speaking of the western survey, the President next remarks: "Of the officers engaged on construction, between Dam No. 6 and Cumberland, 47 have been discharged."

There were when the change in the direction took place, referred to by the President, and there still are, two classes of officers upon the canal. The first, which may be called the *permanent* class, embraces all officers on the finished canal, and those required whether there be more or less work under contract, viz:—the President and Directors, the Treasurer, the Clerks and others in the canal office (now at Frederick,) the Superintendants of repairs, the Collectors and lock-keepers. The second, which may be regarded as the *temporary* class, consists of the Engineers and other officers required on and for the purposes of construction and surveys.

The duties and labors of the first or *permanent* class, are no greater now than they were in June, 1839, when the change in the direction took place. While the duties and labors of the second class are very light, compared with what they then were; the work at present being almost entirely suspended.

It appears from the list presented to the last Legislature, that of the 118 officers spoken of by the President as being in