

succor, to provide the means for completing the work with the least practicable delay. • Will those means be provided? Will the Legislature now, after having toiled through difficulties and embarrassments of every description in its liberal support of this great enterprise, be unwilling to lend its aid now, when the completion and final triumph of it is so near at hand? Standing as it now does, the canal is a dead weight upon the energies of the State. Finish it to Cumberland, and it will not only cease to be a mendicant at the door of the Treasury, but it will become a source of revenue to the State. The undersigned is fully sensible of the unexampled character of the present pecuniary crisis, and how difficult it will be, with the most favorable intentions, to provide a fund for the completion of the canal under existing circumstances; but the hope is still entertained that, by a judicious system of legislation, arrangements may be made by which adequate means can be obtained. And when it is now conceded, on all sides, that the canal is the only source from which the State can hereafter be relieved from the heavy direct taxation that now oppresses her, a wise forecast would indicate its speedy completion, as the first and paramount object to which her efforts should be directed. The undersigned, therefore, most respectfully and earnestly invites the early attention of the General Assembly of Maryland to the subject. All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of the Board,

M. C. SPRIGG,

President Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company.

His Excellency FRANCIS THOMAS,
Governor of Maryland.

APPENDIX TO THE FOREGOING COMMUNICATION,

CONTAINING

DOCUMENTS A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H.

(A.)

OFFICE OF THE CHES. AND OHIO CANAL Co.

Frederick, January 7, 1842.

SIR,—I yesterday received the order of the House of Delegates, passed on the 1st instant, calling upon the President of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company to report to the House of Delegates, “at as early a day as possible, what progress has been made during the year 1841 towards the completion of said canal; what amount of State bonds have been sold or hypothecated by said company in the year 1841; to whom sold or hypothecated, and at what price or prices; what disposition has been made of