

ted to the benefit of such sales, as I have before endeavored to explain the purport of that stipulation.

If I am correct in this view of the contract, in which I cannot doubt you will agree with me, their right remains perfect to make sales of the bonds on the most advantageous terms which can be obtained, unless some arrangement be made with you for a different adjustment.

In coming to these conclusions, the correctness of which I think cannot be questioned, you will observe I have not adverted to the fact of the failure of the State and company to perform a vital part of their engagement, that of paying the interest on the bonds; which *alone would fully justify* Messrs. Baring, in pursuing any course to indemnify themselves for their advances, not involving an unnecessary sacrifice of the interests of the State or the company.

I cannot doubt that you will perceive with me, in this, and all the transactions of Messrs. Baring, not only with the canal company, but with the State of Maryland, and with the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, the same high, right, and honorable purpose and conduct, which have always, in all cases, distinguished and characterised the house of Baring. They have paid out their money to support the credit of the State of which they were the agents, and in which they felt their reputation deeply concerned, from having been instrumental in negotiating its bonds. They have trusted liberally to the engagements of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, and furnished the means to complete their road to Cumberland. They have waited years for the repayment of their advance to the canal company, and proposed terms of settlement, every way liberal towards the company.

I notice with great satisfaction, the opinion of the directors, that Maryland will take efficient means, during the present session, to restore her credit; but am sorry to observe that among those means is stated the payment of the taxes in coupons and interest warrants—a measure which, by depriving the treasury of its means of paying the interest, must, as it seems to me, depress the stock, and operate most injuriously on the credit of the State.

I notice also, appended to the report of the directors, an enquiry of Messrs. Baring, if the means can be furnished to complete the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal; on this and on the whole subject of the report of the directors, Messrs. Baring will no doubt address you.

The object of this communication is simply to place, in what seems to me the true light, the position of Messrs. Baring, in regard to the company over which you preside, for the information of the Legislature and all concerned.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your most obedient

And humble serv't,

T. W. WARD, *Attorney.*