

R E P O R T .

The committee appointed by an order of the House, to visit Washington city, in relation to the transfer of the Stock held by the United States in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, report:

That in obedience to the order, they proceeded to Washington, and entered upon the discharge of the duties entrusted to them.

The committee take pleasure in saying, that every facility was extended to them by the committees in both Houses of Congress, having charge of the subject, and that they had an early interview and interchange of views and opinions, as to the justice of our application, and the benefits and advantages that would in all probability result, both to the State of Maryland, the District cities and the Government of the United States, from the proposed transfer of their stock to the State of Maryland.

The United States now hold in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal company, stock to the amount of one million of dollars, subscribed by virtue of an Act of Congress of 1828, chapter 86—also, one million subscribed by the city of Washington, 250,000 dollars subscribed by Georgetown, and 250,000 dollars subscribed by Alexandria, which stock so subscribed for by those three cities was surrendered to the Government of the United States, by virtue of an Act of Congress approved May 20th, 1836, appropriating the amount of the loan contracted in Holland, by those cities to pay for the stock originally subscribed for by them.

The Act of Congress however, contains a clause authorizing those cities to redeem the stock, within ten years from the date of its surrender, to the United States, although there is no probability that that right will be exercised.

In the several interviews which we had with the committees of Congress, we presented the subject in such aspects, as claiming to the State of Maryland the entire interest in a work, which is mainly indebted to the liberality of the State for its present advanced condition. And we are able to say, that the committees who conferred with us evinced a liberal feeling and disposition to transfer the entire interest of the General Government in the canal, to the State of Maryland, upon acceptable terms.