

The committee heard, that upon the part of Georgetown and Alexandria, no opposition would be made to the transfer, and that although the Councils of Washington city opposed the transfer of all the stock, yet, many of the most intelligent citizens made no opposition to it, and we have cause to believe that the opposition as made, is founded upon views and considerations not necessary to be specified in this report, and not substantially unfavorable to the proposed transfer.

In presenting the views which we entertained in relation to the justice of our application, we deemed it not inappropriate to suggest the advantages which we believe will enure to the United States from the proposed transfer. We called to the recollection of the Committees of Congress, the conditions upon which Maryland subscribed to the original stock of the company, and also the fact that the size and dimensions of the canal, had been enlarged upon the application of the government of the United States—that the sum as originally contemplated was sufficient to finish it, upon the plan first proposed, and but for the purpose of enlarging its capacity to meet the wishes of the General Government, it would now have been completed—that when the work had been suspended, and each of the other parties who had engaged in it, had abandoned it, or refused to contribute any further sum towards its completion, Maryland, although then laboring under a heavy debt, did not hesitate to advance her means and her credit. That the work is again stationary, and now when the views which were entertained by the government of the United States, as to its policy in relation to Internal Improvements has been abandoned, and neither of the other parties who entered into this great work with sanguine anticipations of its completion, is willing to contribute, it may devolve upon the State of Maryland to provide the necessary means, justice would seem to require that the other parties to the undertaking, should not be permitted to avail themselves of the expenditures of this State, and receive the avails of our advances. We took occasion also to suggest, that the consideration offered by the State of Maryland in the conditions of the transfer, which would be acceptable to the State, would be a fair equivalent for the stock held by the United States. The right to transport the troops, light arms and camp equipage, and ordnance, in time of war, would be more valuable to the government than any amount of dividends that the United States might expect to receive as a stockholder; and while the government of the United States, would be doing an act of justice and apparent liberality to the State of Maryland, it would be securing valuable rights and privileges for all time to come.

The committee ask leave herewith to present a copy of the bill (No. 1.) prepared and submitted to the committees of Congress, shewing the terms and conditions of transfer of stock, which would be acceptable to the State of Maryland, and also a copy of the bill (No. 2.) prepared to meet the views entertained by the corporate authorities of Washington, in the event of the first bill not meeting with successful action. The committee forbear, at this time, to ex-