

good citizens—the perpetual—indissoluble—union of the States.

Among our works of internal improvement, in progress of execution, the Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail Road deserves notice. It is much to be regretted that the policy of our sister, on the north, has hitherto, denied to this work, the privilege of pursuing its course beyond the confines of Maryland. It may, however, be profitably extended in another direction; nor can we abandon the hope, that Pennsylvania will yet relax her policy in this respect, and deal with it in that spirit of liberality, hitherto, and in other respects, so peculiarly characteristic of that great state.

The Rail Road from Baltimore to Washington, has been commenced, and the whole capital, believed to be necessary for its completion, having been subscribed, there can be no doubt of its being finished within the time prescribed; and, as little of its great utility, as well as productiveness, when completed.

Whether any, and if any, what legislation may be necessary, during your present session, in reference to any of our works of internal improvement, is left to your wisdom and consideration, when you shall have received and examined, the particular reports which will, no doubt, be submitted to you in reference to each.

We earnestly press upon your consideration the necessity of providing for the better organization and discipline of the militia. The experience of all ages has taught that the only safe, the only secure, reliance of a free people, for protection against outrage and aggression, is upon the militia—upon themselves. But this reliance is far from being either safe or secure, unless there be, constantly kept up, a certain degree of organization and discipline; at present, we cannot be said to have either—how soon we may have occasion for both, none can tell.

It is not, perhaps, obtainable, nor does it appear to be essential, that the whole body of the militia should be skilled, or even, at all instructed in the discipline of the