

to the files of your body for their opinions and arguments in relation to it. Should the General government come to the conclusion to make an equitable distribution of the public lands amongst the states, the proceeds from this source would contribute largely towards the means of obtaining this desirable end.

By an act of the Legislature, the Governor is authorized to appoint twenty Deaf and Dumb children, to be sent to the Asylum at Philadelphia, for the purpose of being educated in that institution. The applications for appointment are frequent. Some, who are appointed, from different causes, are never sent, and great delay often takes place in the sending of others. It is a most noble charity, on the part of the State, and the number authorized ought constantly to be complete. I would therefore state, that an alteration in the law might be advantageous, specifying some short time for the persons appointed to arrive at the Institution, and requiring a certificate from the Managers of the admission of the individual. Should the time for the reception of the certificate elapse the vacancy would be immediately supplied by the appointment of some other of those unfortunate persons.

There is a subject connected with the Internal Improvement of the State, to which I beg leave to call your most serious attention. It is well known to every member of your honorable body, that Maryland has embarked her funds liberally in support of a system of Internal Improvement—that there are now fostered by her, and constructing under her auspices, two stupendous works, for the connexion of the Western with the Atlantic waters. The completion of either of these works would be an achievement, of which any single State might be proud. Yet, after devoting her treasure to an enormous amount in support of these works, an obstacle has arisen to the extension of one work, caused by the jealousy of the conductors of the other, which was first chartered, but from the discoveries and inventions of man was found to be not so well calculated to attain the object. The Legislature, at its last session, willing and wishing to witness the progress of both, passed a resolution, to which I have the honor to refer you as No. 108 on the list, in which, in effect, the Directors of the Canal Company, (who, by a legal decision, had obtained possession of the valley through which both works were calculated to pass,) are requested to permit the Rail-Road to pass the difficult and narrow places of the valley of the

