

the porters, of the principal clerks, and of other officers of the establishment, constantly resident within the walls of the building. A nightly watch of the confidential officers of the bank, who take turns in rotation, is rigidly required. A general survey of every department and office of the building is made by those gentlemen, who are on duty thrice in the course of every night—namely, at ten o'clock, at midnight, and at four o'clock in the morning. Occasional surveys of the more important apartments are made in the intervals between these stated times, of more or less extent, according to circumstances, and the degree of vigilance of the gentleman whose turn it is to keep watch. It was to this wise precaution that the timely discovery of the recent fire is to be attributed. There are seven very excellent fire engines kept within the bank, which are monthly inspected by the maker, and there is in every department a good supply of fire buckets. In each of the yards of the bank are capacious tanks, judiciously placed, and kept constantly filled with water. The only deficiencies seem to be, the not having two or three resident porters practically acquainted with the management of engines and the want of pickaxes, saws and crowbars, to tear up timbers, floorings, or partitions, which might catch fire.

Of the cause of the late fire, upon a careful survey, no doubt could exist. The aperture cut through the flooring by the workmen and which was supposed by the clerk of the works to have caused the fire, by the fall of some accidental sparks, was found to be wholly untouched by fire, so that no doubt can exist but the iron hearth had for many days past been allowed, by the accumulation of burning cinders, to become thoroughly "saturated with heat," and iron being a powerful retainer and conductor of heat, the strong beam that passed under the hearth and the ends of the girders which rested thereon, were gradually undergoing a process of decay from the constant action of heat, till at last they burst into a state of combustion. The property within the bank is wholly uninsured.

#### SETTLEMENT OF THE "RESERVE"—OHIO.

*From the Western Reserve Chronicle.  
Cantfield, October 25th, 1836.*

DEAR SIR: I have been extremely anxious to obtain all the information in the possession of the first settlers, relative to the early history and settlement of the Reserve. Judge Atwater has written to me, at my request, and I know of no better method of perpetuating the facts he mentions, than to have the letter published. Very sincerely yours,

W. H. WHITTLESEY.

*Geo. Hapgood,*

*Mantua, June 19, 1835.*

Sir: Agreeably to your request, I send you as much of an answer to your inquiries as my means of knowledge will at present permit.

The first surveying company came up the Mohawk river, from Schoenectady, where it was said, one of the boatmen was drowned in ascending the river. I believe they had four boats, one of which was wrecked and lost on lake Ontario, the night when the boats ran by Fort Oswego, (then in possession of the British, and a few days before it was given up, by what is called "Jay's treaty").

A considerable portion of the men were hired in Ontario county, N. Y. and were not with the boats at that time. I was one of the latter, who came by land and drove cattle and pack horses. About a week was spent at Buffalo, to hold a council with the Indians. The principal chiefs of the Six Nations, and many others, were assembled. After many fine speeches had been made and interpreted, some presents given and accepted, the pipe of peace smoked, specimens of Indian dancing given, &c. the council broke up, and each one went his own way, or on their own business. The surveying party proceeded on, some in the boats and some by land; and all assembled on the peninsula of Presque Isle, on the morning of July 4th, 1796.

The day was fair and pleasant: the lake still and calm: the beach of the lake tolerably good, for travelling; and the boats and land party arrived at the mouth of Conant creek a little before sunset.—Having all arrived safe, and in good health and high spirits, it might be supposed all felt ready and willing to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our independence, in the best manner the circumstances would admit. Although late in the day, a suitable number of toasts were drank, salutes of small guns fired, and the day closed with general rejoicing and hilarity.

The party then consisted of forty-five men, two women and one child, perhaps three or four years old, a son of Mr. Gunn; and a negro man, Joseph Hodge, commonly called black Joe, who had been

employed to come from Buffalo or Cataragus as an Indian interpreter. He stayed but a few days.

The names of the men, and the capacities in which they acted, were as follows:—Moses Cleveland, agent; Augustus Porter, principal surveyor; Moses Warren, Seth Pease, Milton Holley, Amos Spafford, Richard M. Stoddard, surveyors; Joshua Stow, commissary; Theodore Shepard, physician; Joseph Tinker, principal boatman. Those who were employed and acted as common assistants were—Sam'l Agnew, Amzi Atwater, Elisha Ayers, Amos Barber, David Beard, Stephen Benton, John Briant, Shadrach Benham, Michael Coffin, Nathaniel Doan, Timothy Dunham, Samuel Devenport, Samuel Forbes, George Gooden, Francis Grey, Elijah Gunn, (with his wife and child), James Hackett, James Hamilton, Luke Hanchett, Thomas Harris, Samuel Hungerford, William B. Hall, Joseph Landon, John Lock, Asa Mason, Joseph McIntire, Ezekiel Morley, Titus V. Munson, Charles Parker, George Proudfit, Olney F. Rice, Wareham Shepard, Amos Sottel, Job P. Stiles, (with his wife), Norman Wilcock.

A short council was held with the Missasagua Indians, then residing near that place, in which were explained the motives and intentions of the company. A large but rather uncouth storehouse was built on the wide sand beach, on the east side of the mouth of the creek, which was then covered with standing timber.

In a few days a party of surveyors, with their assistants, with pack horses, went and measured the Pennsylvania line from the lake to near where it was supposed the south line of the Reserve would be. Others followed on, a few days after. This point was ascertained by Mr. Seth Pease, who had conveyed a quadrant there for that purpose. It was done on the high lands south of the Mahoning, about half or three-fourths of a mile north of the present corner of the Reserve. That distance was accurately measured, and a large post set, which was supposed to be at 41 degrees of north latitude; the correctness of which, I believe, has never been disputed, and probably never will be. From that post, a line was run west, as accurately as could well be done with a common compass. This line was run, that season, twenty miles; and the four first meridians run to the lake. Mr. Holley ran the first, Messrs. Spafford and Stoddard the second, Moses Warren the third, and Messrs. Potter and Pease the fourth.

In this expedition we suffered some for want of provisions, and much by fatigue. The weather was generally dry, and in some instances water very scarce. I was with Warren's party: we were three times on short allowance of provision. It being my first campaign on that business, I thought it rather hard; but something new was every day to be seen, and our minds buoyed up with hopes of relief: and on the whole I never regretted my going; and was ready and willing to go on another when called for.

The parallels, or east and west lines, were nearly all run this season, north of No. 6, and some south of that, on the 9th, 10th and 11th ranges, to the lake or Cuyahoga river; and the north part of the meridians west of the 8th range, and east of the Cuyahoga river, were run to the lake—the lake shore traversed to where it was supposed the west line of the Reserve would be, near Sandusky bay—the Cuyahoga river traversed up a considerable distance—the village of Cleveland laid out, and a considerable part of the 100 acre lots in Cleveland and Newburg were run; and some division lines were run in Mentor.

The last of the surveying party left the Reserve on or about the 22d of October, leaving Mr. Gunn and family, and James Kingsbury's family (who had come there in August), at Conneaut. These families suffered for the want of provision and other necessities of life, as I believe, very severely. Mr. Job P. Stiles and wife were left at Cleveland.—Capt. Paine, now of Chardon, came there after we left, and staid with them through the winter.

The surveying party were very healthy, and no serious accident befel any one. We left the Reserve in as high spirits as when we arrived.

Of all this party, I was for several years the only one living on the Reserve. Mr. Ezekiel Morley came and settled in Chester two or three years ago. The most of them, I believe, are dead.

The survey into townships and some townships lotted, together with the equalization tracts, was completed in 1797: but this must be the subject of another communication, if done at all. I have hastily written the foregoing, and you will perceive it is not very correct as to style, language, &c.; but I believe it contains nothing but a simple narrative of facts. I am sensible that I have written many unimportant things, but such as they are, I cheerfully present them. I am yours, very respectfully,

AMZI ATWATER.

The surveying party were much in a habit of giving names to places and things. In some instances these names have been retained. Meander creek, and Musketoe creek, both emptying into the Mahoning in Weatherfield, were named by Moses Warren, esq. the former on account of its meandering course, on the third meridian which he run, and the latter on account of the numerous swarms of those little troublesome insects which in those days were the great affliction of woodmen. Tinker's creek, which empties into the Cuyahoga in Independence, was named after Joseph Tinker, the boatman, who claimed the honor, in imitation of great navigators, by right of discovery.

The small species of rattlesnakes, which were very numerous, and to us unknown, were called Missasagaus, after the resident Indians, which name I believe they have generally been known by to the present time. A. A.

#### MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND.

*Executive department, Annapolis, Dec. 25th 1836.  
Gentlemen of the senate,  
and of the house of delegates:*

In discharging, on the present occasion, the customary duty of submitting to you, at the commencement of your session, such matters of public concern as may seem to demand the consideration of the general assembly, we cannot refrain, in the outset of this communication, from congratulating you, and the people of the state at large, upon the restoration of peace and quiet within our borders; upon the harmony which prevails among our citizens; and upon the praiseworthy desire, manifested in every quarter, of uniting zealously and in the best spirit, for the advancement of the true glory and welfare of the state.

There is, in our opinion, no truth more obvious, or scarcely more important to be known and recognized in every well regulated government, than that the undue prevalence and excitement of the spirit of party are calculated to disturb the peace of society, and create serious and permanent evils in the body politic. This salutary lesson is exemplified in the history of all governments, but it is more particularly striking in those whose foundations are based upon republican principles. If it were necessary to travel beyond the limits of our own observation and experience to establish the truth of these remarks, we might show, that in the anarchy and consequent destruction of most, if not all the free governments of both ancient and modern times, an inflamed party spirit has been a most prominent and efficient agent. But it is not necessary to do so. In our own times—here—in our own state, and before our own eyes—have we witnessed the extreme to which the undue indulgence of the spirit of party leads. But, happily, in our case, the patriotism of the community was aroused to the dangers with which we were threatened, and the issue of the recent occurrences furnishes a practical illustration of the stability of free institutions, when supported by a patriotic and intelligent people.

In this connexion we would respectfully invite your attention to the proclamation and message which we had the honor to submit to the house of delegates, on the 25th ultimo, copies of which we herewith transmit to the senate. These documents exhibit the action of the executive, and the views entertained by us of the further measures necessary and proper to be adopted in relation to the extraordinary occurrences of which they treat. The more we reflect on this subject, the more thoroughly are we persuaded that your action concerning it, is a duty of the most weighty and responsible character, and we, therefore, earnestly hope that you will take into your serious consideration, without any unnecessary delay, our election and criminal laws, with the view to prevent the recurrence of any similar conduct in all future time.

Among the first acts which it will be necessary for you to perform, is the passage of such a law, as will entitle this state to the reception of her portion of the surplus revenue of the United States, under the deposit law of the last session of the national congress. It is probable that the sum which Maryland will be entitled to receive under that act, will not fall far short of a million and a half of dollars. The application of this large fund, will, therefore necessarily constitute a prominent subject for deliberation at your present session, as the whole amount of it will fall due before the next annual session of the general assembly.

The internal improvement law of the extra session in May last, having amply provided for work of this character, by authorising the negotiation of a loan of eight millions of dollars—the whole of which sum is appropriated to this most important object—and which we think should not be divert-

ed to any other), we beg leave most respectfully to recommend that the amount which may be received by this state, as her portion of the surplus revenue referred to, be invested either in the eight million loan, the stock of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal company, and the Baltimore and Ohio rail road company, lately subscribed for under the internal improvement act, or, in some other permanent and profitable stock; and that the interest or dividends to be annually received therefrom, be applied to the general purposes of the state, until the treasury shall be relieved from the balance which has appeared against it for several past years, and be in condition to meet, from other sources, all demands against it; and that, thereafter, the said interest on dividends be appropriated to the advancement of education.

It is believed that the appropriation of the accruing interest upon said fund, for about three or four years, to the general purposes of the treasury, and the completion of the great works of internal improvement, in which the state has large investments—which may and ought to be effected in the same time—will relieve the state treasury from all difficulty, and leave it, thereafter, with ample resources, independent of said fund, to meet all the ordinary and necessary expenses of the government, and demands against it. And it will probably require about the same length of time, to mature and to get into operation, a general system of education commensurate with the increased means of sustaining it.

Of the importance of education, it is not necessary for us to speak in lengthened terms. That is a subject upon which we all harmonize in opinion. Confessedly the greatest blessing, and most secure palladium of a free people—their firmest reliance for the perpetuity of their freedom, and for the discomfiture and overthrow of those who would invade it—it must ever claim from their true representatives, and their real friends, the most efficient encouragement, whenever the means in their power shall enable them to extend it. We regard the present as the most auspicious crisis for the establishment of a general system of education throughout the state, which we think may, and should be so modelled, as that no one need forego its beneficial influences. It is not probable that any considerable portion of the surplus fund allotted to the states, will be wanted for many years to come, and we do not regard it at all certain, that it will ever be required by the general government, unless, perhaps, some extraordinary event, such as a foreign war, shall render the demand of a pressing and indispensable character. Unless some such contingency should happen, we are firmly persuaded, that its recall to the coffers of the United States' treasury, should be resisted by the representatives of the people of the states; and we have no doubt this will be done. Under these circumstances, any system of education, based upon the perpetuity of this fund, will be most likely to continue through a protracted series of years; and, in this light, it becomes a matter demanding the most serious consideration, and judicious arrangement. But, although the permanent continuance of this fund among the states, is a proposition which, in our opinion, may be relied upon with much confidence, yet it will be necessary that it should be so invested, that whenever its repayment shall be called for, it may be met with that promptness of execution, which should characterize the engagements of a sovereign state, and which is so indispensable to her character and credit. It was with a view to the attainment of this most desirable object, that we suggested the propriety of making provision for the annual outlay of the interest *only*; not deeming the expenditure of any portion of the principal, under the existing laws of congress, as proper or expedient.

Reform in the constitution of the state will constitute another prominent topic for your consideration; and permit us to express the opinion, founded upon mature reflection on the subject, that it is of the highest importance, that your present session should not be brought to a close, without the adoption of at least some leading measures bearing upon this difficult and exciting question. We had the honor of submitting some suggestions on this subject, in the message to the house of delegates before mentioned, to which we beg leave at this time respectfully to call your attention.

It has become our painful duty to announce to you the death of the honorable Robert H. Goldsborough, late a representative of this state, in the senate of the United States. This melancholy event occurred in October last, at his residence on the Eastern Shore. The distinguished character of the deceased; his many valuable public services; his singular urbanity and kindness in all the relations of private life; his superior intellectual endowments and high moral worth, had acquired for him a name

among his fellow countrymen which will cause him to be classed and remembered with the purest and proudest which adorn the long catalogue of Maryland's distinguished sons.

It will be incumbent upon you to supply the vacancy, created by this mournful dispensation of Divine Providence, at as early a day as convenient, since the importance of a full representation from this state in the senate of the United States, during the residue of the present session of congress, when many deeply interesting questions are likely to be decided, is so obviously apparent. We forbore to exercise the power of making a temporary appointment of a successor, with which we were clothed by the constitution, because it was not probable, that a full representation in the senate of the United States, would be of much importance before your annual meeting, and because, without strong necessity, we were unwilling, by such appointment, to interfere with your unbiassed choice in making a more permanent selection.

In compliance with the resolution of the last general assembly, No. 15, we appointed "one commissioner from each of the counties of the Eastern Shore of this state, to make a reconnoissance and survey, and an estimate of the cost of a rail road from some point or points in Cecil county, in connexion with one or more of the improvements in said county, and thence extending by a line, as straight as may be, nearly contiguous to and parallel with the western limits of the state of Delaware, to the southern extreme of Somerset county, with a divergent route through Worcester county, to the northern line of the state of Virginia, &c." We have not received any official report of the completion or extent of progress made in the survey of the route for said rail road, or of the estimate of its cost; but we have unofficially understood, that the survey of a route for the main line, and also an estimate of its cost have been completed, and will be reported as soon as the chief engineer, employed in making them can prepare his report, and the necessary maps and documents to accompany it.

On application to the president of the United States, as required by the charter of the Annapolis and Potomac canal company, we procured the services of Gen. W. Hughes, esq. one of the United States' corps of engineers, in making the necessary surveys for the route of said canal.

Mr. Hughes, in a communication to us, dated the 8th ult. states, "that the surveys and location of the canal are drawing to a close, and with favorable weather will be entirely completed by the last of next week." We have not since received any further communication from Mr. Hughes, but presume that his final report of the surveys, &c. will be made without unnecessary delay. In connection with this subject, we lay before you a copy of a communication from Mr. Hughes, and of the extracts of proceedings of the commissioners, and of the president and directors of the Maryland canal company, enclosed and mentioned in his communication, marked No. 3.

In pursuance of the authority conferred on us by the 8th section of the act, passed at the extra session in May last, entitled, "an act for the promotion of internal improvement," we appointed Chas. B. Fiske, esq. of the United States' corps of engineers, to survey the several routes of the Maryland canal company, by the valleys of the Monocacy and Patapsco, or by a route diverging from the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, at the mouth of the Seneca river exclusively within the limits of this state, and to perform the other duties prescribed by the said act." And the Maryland canal company, also, in pursuance of the authority conferred by the act aforesaid, appointed George W. Hughes, esq. another of the engineers of the United States' corps, "to act concurrently with the engineers appointed by us," in making said surveys, &c. as appears by a communication from the president of said company, a copy of which is herewith submitted, marked No. 4.

On the 20th day of July last, the aforesaid engineers made to us the report, of which the document herewith sent, marked No. 5, is a copy. Upon consideration whereof, and in pursuance of the requisition of the aforesaid act, we adopted the preamble and resolution, of which the document marked No. 6, is a copy.

The agreement of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal company, and of the Baltimore and Ohio rail road company, in general meetings of said corporations respectively assembled, to the several provisions of the act for the promotion of internal improvements, passed at the extra session of May last, so far as they are applicable to said corporations respectively, were severally communicated, under their respective corporate seals, and the signatures of their presidents, to the governor of this

state within the time required by the said act.—The documents herewith marked Nos. 7 and 8, are copies of the said communications.

In pursuance of the act passed at May session last, entitled, "an act to authorise the governor and council to build a new tobacco inspection warehouse in the city of Baltimore," and of the supplement thereto, we contracted with John N. and William Murphy, building mechanics of the said city, for building a new warehouse on the vacant lot adjoining the state's tobacco inspection warehouse No. 3, upon the plan and of the dimensions referred to in said act, and we contracted for the purchase of the lot of land, adjoining said vacant lot, as required by the act aforesaid. By the communication from the commissioner of loans, of which the document marked No. 9 is a copy, it appears that the loan provided for by the above mentioned acts, to pay for the vacant lot and the erection of the warehouse, could not be obtained upon such terms as would have justified its negotiation, or, as it is evident, was expected by the general assembly.

Under these circumstances—a contract having been made for the erection of the new warehouse—and for the purchase of the vacant lot, as required by law—and no funds of consequence in hand or likely to be procured by the loan provided for as aforesaid—we had resort to the authority contained in the law of December session 1825, entitled, "a supplement to the act entitled, an act to establish state warehouses for the inspection of tobacco in the city of Baltimore," which places under our direction and control the net revenue arising from the inspection of tobacco as a fund for building warehouses. Under this last mentioned act, we have paid towards the erection of the new warehouse and for the said lot \$4,070 21, all the net revenue arising from the inspection of tobacco in the treasury, up to 1st instant, and issued certificates of debt, chargeable upon the future receipts of said revenue, for \$7,433 55 payable in six months, and for \$2,500 payable in twelve months, bearing interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, in payment for the balance of the purchase money of the said lot, and towards the erection of the warehouse. And it will be necessary, from time to time, as the work progresses, to issue further certificates of debt, at such dates of payment as the inspection revenue will probably meet. The certificates which have been issued were cashed by the Union bank, as we presume that such as may hereafter issue, will be by that institution or otherwise, without difficulty.

The failure to obtain the small loan provided for to be applied to the erection of a new tobacco warehouse and purchase of an adjoining lot, and various other indications of an unfavorable state of the money market, as well in Europe as in this country, induced us to postpone the appointment of commissioners, which we were authorised to make, to negotiate a loan of eight millions of dollars, under the act of May last, for the promotion of internal improvement. Recent information induces us to believe that a favorable change has commenced, and that well grounded hopes may be entertained that the condition of the money market will soon be such that the eight millions loan may be obtained on terms within the limits of the said act. We have therefore recently appointed commissioners to negotiate it.

As required by resolution No. 55 of the general assembly, passed in May last, we appointed three citizens of Worcester county, commissioners "to make a reconnoissance and survey, and to estimate the cost of a rail road within the limits of Worcester county, from some point on the south line of the state of Delaware, through the towns of Berlin, Newark, and Snow Hill, to some suitable point on Pocomoke river; and also to extend the reconnoissance and survey from the assumed point of Delaware, in as straight a line as may be, to the northern line of the state of Virginia, bounding Worcester county, with a divergent route to any one or more of the places therein mentioned, or to connect the said route with any other works of improvement authorised by this state, or the states of Delaware and Virginia, &c." And the said commissioners having, as authorised by the resolution in September last, made a requisition on the governor for the services of the state's engineer in making the reconnoissance survey, &c. we apprized the engineer of the requisition, and directed him to correspond with the commissioners on the subject. We received from the engineer an acknowledgment of our communication, stating that he would comply with our directions, and shortly be in readiness to attend to that duty. We have not received any report from either the commissioners or the engineers in relation to said survey.

We transmit herewith a copy of a communication from the president of the Baltimore and Susquehanna rail road company, with a printed copy of this

ninth annual report of the president and directors thereof, which affords a gratifying view of the progress and prospects of that company in the highly important work of internal improvement in which they are engaged.

We have not received any official report from the Chesapeake and Ohio canal company, or the Baltimore and Ohio rail road company of the progress of those companies the present year, in executing those great works, so vitally important to the commercial, financial and general interests and prosperity of the state; but we presume, of course, that such reports will be submitted to your consideration at your present session.

Such are the character and magnitude of those works, the immensity of the trade they are intended, and cannot when completed fail to attract to our commercial metropolis, and the deep financial interest of the state connected with them, that their speedy completion is a matter of such high and pressing importance as to demand from all concerned the most vigorous and energetic efforts to accomplish it.

In conformity to the 44th resolution of the last general assembly, directing the procurement of full length portraits of the late William Paca, Samuel Chase, and Thomas Stone, three of the signers of the Declaration of Independence from this state, we succeeded in procuring the services of John B. Bordley, a young and eminent native artist, who has executed the paintings in a highly creditable manner. These portraits may now be seen appropriately arranged in the senate chamber, by the side of that of the distinguished Carroll, and altogether present to the eye of the beholder a most interesting and impressive spectacle.

In compliance with the resolution of the last general assembly, in relation to the manuscript history of Maryland, by John Leeds Bozman, presented to the state by John Leeds Kerr, esq. we contracted with Messrs. Lucas & Deaver, of the city of Baltimore, for printing at least one thousand copies of that work; five hundred copies of which we reserved to the state, to be delivered by the said Lucas & Deaver within eighteen months, well bound in sheep, at \$4 per copy.

The repairs of the public grounds around the state house have not yet been entirely completed. The new stone wall and iron railing appear to be executed in a substantial and workmanlike manner; and with the exception of the gates to be placed at the three entrances to the circle, this portion of the work may be said to be completed. There are some trifling improvements which remain to be done on the interior of the circle, such as removing rubbish and grading the ground, to which objects we think a small additional appropriation should be directed. After these repairs and improvements shall have been thoroughly consummated, it will be with you to decide upon the expediency of appointing a suitable person, with a small salary, to take care of the public grounds and other state property, and to keep them in suitable order.

Under the resolution No. 66, of the last annual session, we have caused to be transcribed the original journal of proceedings of the council of safety, for the years 1774 and 1775, and the original journal of the convention of 1774, and the correspondence and other papers connected with those interesting bodies, and periods of our history. By an inspection of this transcript, the reader will find that numerous highly valuable and interesting papers, have been thus preserved from oblivion. We have not been able to give but a cursory examination to the numerous other papers, recently brought to light. It will remain for the executive hereafter to determine upon a fuller examination of them, what portion, if any, ought to be transcribed, to carry out the views of the legislature, as expressed in the resolution on that subject.

The various other resolutions passed at the last session of the general assembly, and which we were directed to carry into effect, have received a due portion of our attention, and the most of them, we are pleased to announce, have been satisfactorily executed.

A communication from Robert Lemmon, esq. one of the auctioneers within the city of Baltimore, under the authority of the state, was received by us on the 23d day of July last, stating that a suit had been instituted against him, by the mayor and city council of Baltimore, for the recovery of a fine of \$500, for not complying with their ordinance, then recently passed, for the regulation of sales by auction; and calling on us, (as the measure was an attack both on the law and revenue of the state), to direct our law officer to resist it at the state's cost. This request appearing to us reasonable and proper, we directed the clerk of the council to apprise Mr. Lemmon that it would be complied with, and by our direction the letter of which document marked No.

11, is a copy, was addressed to the attorney general.

We have not received an official copy of the ordinance of the mayor and city council of Baltimore, regulating sales by auction, referred to in the letter of Mr. Lemmon, nor any other evidence of their proceedings under it. But we have reason to believe that, in addition to the prosecution of auctioneers, for selling under the authority of the state, that the mayor and city council have licensed auctioneers, who are selling under their authority, in violation of the law of the state.

We have deemed it our duty, to submit this subject to your consideration, with the view to such further legislation as you may deem necessary for preserving the revenue arising from this source, and for maintaining and enforcing the state law.

We transmit herewith some claims for militia services in Cecil county, which, not having authority, under existing laws, to settle, we submit for your consideration.

Since the last session of the general assembly, we have received from the governors of the states of New York and Maine, copies of sundry resolutions passed by the legislatures of those states, in relation to slavery and abolitionism, which in conformity with the requests accompanying said resolutions, we herewith transmit for your consideration.

The indications from various quarters of a disposition to press upon the public attention the subject of slavery, with a view to its abolition, which have been occasionally manifested for many years past, have, within the last few years, assumed an aspect and importance vitally affecting the people of the states, in which a slave population exists to any considerable extent.

Whatever opinions may be entertained by others, or by us, of slavery, "in the abstract," the circumstances under which it exists in the states of this union, are such as to forbid a general emancipation, even if the desire to accomplish it were universal, whilst the present ameliorated condition and general treatment of slaves are such, as to leave the friends and advocates of emancipation no hope of bettering their condition generally, by the success of their exertions. It is believed that most erroneous notions on this subject, (particularly as relates to the condition and treatment of slaves), are generally entertained in the non-slaveholding sections of the country, and that it is the superficial and imperfect view taken of the matter, by such of the citizens of non-slaveholding states, as are actuated by good and humane intentions, that has caused the misguided zeal and efforts which have become so threatening in their consequences. They have looked principally to evils, (as they supposed them), to be remedied, without due consideration, or being, (from their local situations), qualified to form just conceptions of the many and various difficulties to be encountered, and dangers to be apprehended, in carrying into effect their wishes and views. We have no doubt, but that a large portion of our fellow citizens who have engaged in, and are zealously pursuing measures to effect a general emancipation of slaves are actuated by the best motives, and conscientiously believe themselves to be performing a sacred duty of humanity; but we are equally confident, that many of the most intemperate and noisy declaimers upon the subject, are influenced by very different motives.

We cannot permit ourselves to believe that it is the *deliberate* purpose of any respectable portion of the people of the United States, much less of the constituted authorities of the general or any state government, to infringe the rights of the states, where slavery exists, or of the citizens holding slaves; yet it cannot be concealed, and ought not to be concealed, that opinions have been expressed as well in congress, as in, if not by several state legislatures, which look to the adoption of some measure by the general government upon this subject, which cannot be effected, but in violation of the rights and privileges of both: for it is a matter with which that government has nothing to do, and with which it can, in no manner interfere, without overstepping the bounds of its authority, and trespassing upon rights, and assuming powers never conceded to it.

We have deemed it our duty, at this time, to invite your particular attention to this exciting subject, and to express frankly, our views of its most vital importance, and earnestly recommend that it be distinctly made known, that we cannot recognize in any of our sister states, or their citizens, any right to interfere with our slaves; and that we unequivocally deny any authority in the general government to legislate upon the subject of their emancipation, or to disturb our rights of property in them, in any manner whatsoever.

It is confidently hoped and believed, that a temperate, yet firm and determined expression of the

unanimous resolution of the slaveholding states, to adhere to and vindicate their rights on this subject, against all extraneous interference would have a salutary effect in awakening all calm, thinking and well intentioned abolitionists, (and without their countenance and aid, the evil intentioned would be impotent and soon cease their efforts), to such a deliberate reconsideration and thorough examination of the whole subject, in all its aspects and tendencies, as would induce them to cease their labors—fruitless of any good; but tending to much mischief, and to produce restlessness, dissatisfaction, inquietude and consequent insubordination of slaves, and vexation, alarm and increased rigor on the part of masters.

We are encouraged to entertain this hope, with much confidence, by the fact which we have understood, and believe to be true, that almost every intelligent gentleman, from any of the non-slaveholding states, who has left home friendly to the abolition cause, and travelled extensively in the south, has had his mind changed, and withdrawn his countenance and support from that cause. Such has been nearly the uniform result of becoming acquainted fully, in any way, with the true state, and general condition of slaves in the United States, and the various circumstances which render general emancipation impracticable, and the movements, and proceedings with that view irritating to masters, prejudicial to slaves, and altogether impolitic and unwarrantable.

Having thus, in a cursory manner, alluded to the various subjects, to which we considered it proper to direct your attention, we cannot conclude this communication, without the expression of our earnest hope that all your deliberations may be characterized by wisdom, moderation and firmness; and that they may redound to the interest, the prosperity and glory of the state. Maryland, at this moment, occupies a most conspicuous stand among her sisters of the union. She has witnessed the rapid strides to wealth and power, in most of the states, which have distinguished the last few years, and has nobly determined to enter the lists of competition. We need not dwell, at length, upon the advantages of her geographical position. They are such as must force themselves upon the attention of every individual, who bestows the smallest reflection on the subject. It is, therefore, the clearest dictate of a wise policy, and no less the duty of a prudent legislature, that these advantages, with which the God of nature had blessed us, should be made instrumental in advancing the power and welfare of the state. To effect these great and paramount objects, the internal improvement law of last May session was passed; and we cannot refrain from expressing it as our deliberate conviction, that the designs of that most liberal and beneficent act, will be successfully achieved, before the lapse of many years, should nothing occur to blight the animating prospects which we now enjoy. Upon the completion of the great works of improvement designed to connect the Chesapeake with the waters of the Ohio, a new era will commence in our state; an era of increasing population, and of agricultural, manufacturing and commercial prosperity, such as we have never yet known. Under these circumstances, we hope that no measures will be taken which might retard this auspicious event, but, on the contrary, that all will unite to hasten its approach, as all are deeply interested in its consummation.

We have only to add, gentlemen, that we shall be found ever ready to co-operate with you in any measures likely to advance the interests and welfare of the people of the state; and to communicate to you such information as may be required, on subjects pertaining to this department of the government.

With the highest consideration, we have the honor to be your obedient servants,

THO. W. VEAZEY.

TWENTY-FOURTH CONGRESS,  
SECOND SESSION—SENATE.

January 2. Mr. Preston of S. C. appeared in his seat.

After the presentation of resolutions and memorials, Mr. Walker to whom it was referred, reported Mr. Clay's land bill, with an amendment, striking out the whole bill save the enacting clause, and substituting another which restricts the sales of the public lands to actual settlers, and to them in small quantities, accompanied with many guards against its being evaded by speculators.

Mr. Hendricks, from the committee on roads and canals, reported a bill to continue the Cumberland and Ohio rail road through the states of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, for which object it appropriates \$500,000, viz: \$200,000 for Ohio, and \$150,000 for each of the other two states.