Expenditures in Department of Treasury.—Messrs. Evans, Atherton, Osborne, Warren and Jones of N. Y.

Expenditures in Department of War.—Messrs. Garland, of La., Howard of Ind., Wagener, Holmes of S. C. and Cooper of Pa.

Expenditures of Department of Navy.—Messrs. Saltonstall, Vanderpoel, Swanton, Green and Gerry.

Expenditures in Department of Post Office.—Messrs. Marvin, Boyd, Lowell, Davis and Brown.

On Department of Public Buildings—Messrs. Stanley, Fornance, Gates, Henry and Earle.

On Public Buildings and Grounds.—Messrs. Lincoln, Petriken, Leonard, Keim and Hastings.

Committee on Unfinished Business.—Messrs. Peck, Parrish, Jackson, James and Dana.

On Accounts.—Messrs. Johnson, of N. Y. Lawrence, Johnson of Md., Marshand and Floyd.

Foreign Affairs.—Messrs. Pickens, Cushing, Dromgoole, Granger, Bynum Hawes, Howard, Everett and Clifford.

Territories—Messrs. Pope, Jenifer, Ramsay, Campbell of Tenn., Stewart, Brewster, Davis of Ky., Montayne and Fine.

Roads and Canals.—Messrs. Ogle, Graves, Carroll, Hill, Smith of Ind., Starkweather, Reyner, Colquitt and Blackwell.

Manufactures.—Messrs. Adams, Nesbitt, Slade, Tillinghast, Worthington, Dromgoole, Mitchell, Eastman and Davis of Pa.

Agriculture.—Messrs. Deberry, Dennis, McClellan, Smith of Ind., Hammond, Shaw, Sweeney, Doig and Hope.

Invalid Pensions.—Messrs. Sherrard, Williams, Morris, Crittenden of N. Y., Doane, Strong, Randall, Morris of Pa., Palen and Edwards.

On Mileage.—Messrs. Williams of Conn., Williams of Mass., Morgan, Leet and Allen

Revolutionary Claims.—Messrs. Taliaferro of Va., Carr of Ind., Anderson of Ky., Steinrod, Reynet, Davis of Pa., Brockaway of Conn., Taylor and Hunt.

Committee on Patents.—Messrs. Fletcher of Vt., Beatty, Prentiss, Paynter and Newhard.

On Public Lands.—Messrs. Corwin, Reynolds; Crary, White, of Ky., Fisher, Garland and Hubbard.

On Claims.—Messrs. Dawson, Russell, Banks, Giddings, Williams, Smith of Conn., Gentry and Galbraith.

On Post Office and Post Roads.—Messrs. McKay, Hopkins, Clifford, Marvin, Ledbetter, J. L. Williams, Anderson of Ky., Butler and Brown.

On District of Columbia.—Messrs. W. C. Johnson, C. H. Williams, Beirne, Clark, Davee, Graham, Cranston, Black and Hawkins.

On Private Land Claims.—Messrs. Casey of Ill., Garland, Calhoun, Dillet, Wick, Butler, Hastings, Jamieson and White of La.

Mr. Wise requested to be excused from serving on any said committees, which was granted.

Some time was spent in a vain effort, first by Mr. Wise, and afterwards by Mr. R. Garland, to suspend the Rules to enable them to move Resolutions against the consideration of Memorials touching the question of Slavery within the District of Columbia.

Upon the motion to reconsider the vote on printing a large extra number of the President's Message, Mr. Thomson, of South Carolina, made a speech of some length upon the general character of the Message, &c.—after which, the Previous Question being moved, the motion for reconsideration was withdrawn.

A question arose concerning the proper mode of disposing of certain papers touching the merits of the New Jersey election, which was not decided at the time the House adjourned.

GENERAL HARRISON.

General Harrison is now the *only* Whig candidate. There is now no question except between him and Mr. Van Buren. Has he the *qualifications* to discharge the duties of Chief Magistrate, and can we support him with a due regard to our own self respect?

General Harrison's merits have been less known and appreciated in this part of the country than they deserve. The scenes of his services have been in distant regions, and the sentiments generally prevalent here during the last war, caused us to look with less interest to the frontiers than to the ocean. Our enthusiasm was reserved almost exclusively for the achievements of the navy. Since his name has been brought forward in connection with the Presidency, both in 1836 and more recently, we have had our more favorite candidates Webster and Clay, with whom we were unwilling to hear of any competitor: and the unfounded attacks made upon General Harrison by his adversaries, their derogating epithets and unmerited sneers, have remained unanswered and unrepelled. It is time that the public mind was disabused.

Our opponents have objected that his qualifications are merely those of a military commander. With what truth this allegation is made, a very brief review of his civil career will show.

At the early age of twenty four he was appointed Secretary of the North Western Territory and *ex officio* Lieutenant Governor, the second civil office in that government comprising what now constitutes the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Missouri. In this station he served with such acceptance that two years afterwards, by the voice of the people, he was elected their Delegate to the Congress of the United States. In that body he so distinguished himself, that in a short time, upon the erection of Ohio into a State, and while yet under the age of thirty years, he was selected by the elder Adams then President of the United States, to be Secretary of the Indiana Territory, comprising what now constitutes the State of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Missouri. This important station he held about thirteen years, and united with it was that difficult and responsible office of Superintendent of Indian Affairs. To judge of the requisites for the successful execution of those trusts, we must carry our minds back to that early period when a great portion of that Territory was covered by hordes of hostile savages; when a new population of the most bold, restless and adventurous spirits, not only from all parts of our own country, but from Europe, was rushing into those fertile regions, impatient of restraint, and with every variety of views, habits and pursuits. To govern successfully required a rare union of prudence and energy, mildness and firmness, sagacity and industry; it demanded far higher talents than are requisite at the present day to be Governor of any State in the Union.

In these offices, and as Commissioner to treat with the Indians, he was called upon to disburse vast sums of the public money and had much concernment with the public lands. That he discharged these difficult duties to the entire satisfaction of the Government of the United States, is attested by his successive re-appointment to the same stations by Presidents Jefferson and Madison. But how was it with the People over whom he presided? Was it possible for him at the same time to secure their approval;—to unite the approbation of the Executive of the United States, with that of the People he was sent to govern? In answer to this question permit me to read to you a resolution passed *unanimously* by the House of Representatives of the Territory of Indiana, in the year 1809.

"They (the House of Representatives) cannot forbear recommending to, and requesting of, the President and Senate, most earnestly in their own names, and in the names of their constituents, the re-appointment of their present governor, William Henry Harrison,—because he possesses the good wishes and affection of a great majority of his fellow citizens; because they believe him sincerely attached to the Union, the prosperity of the United States, and the administration of its government; because they believe him in a superior degree *capable* of promoting the interest of our territory, from long experience and laborious attention to its concerns, from his influence over the Indians, and *wise* and *disinterested* management of that department; and because they have confidence in his VIRTUES, TALENTS, and REPUBLICANISM."

This resolution needs no comment.—It is the unanimous and cordial testimony of those who had the best possible means of judging, to his ability, wisdom, disinterestedness and patriotism.

He subsequently established his residence in Ohio, and became a member of the Senate of that State,—was chosen by the People their Representative to Congress, and afterwards elected a member of the Senate of the United States.

In these stations he was brought into close and intimate relations with the then administration of John Quincy Adams, by whom; with the approbation of his Cabinet and the Senate, General Harrison was appointed Minister from the United States to the Republic of Columbia. And when was John Quincy Adams ever accused, even by his worst enemies, of appointing incompetent men to office? Himself possessing the highest order of talents it was with him matter of pride as well as of duty to employ men of distinguished ability; and if there was any one department of the public service about which he was more solicitous than any other, it was that of our foreign diplomacy, in which he had himself been so long and so eminently distinguished. Mr. Clay was then Secretary of State, and, as such, had the more immediate charge of our foreign relations. His heart had been wrapped up in the success of South American liberty. He had anxiously wished to see established in this hemisphere a new association of sister Republics. Yet by such men as Adams and Clay was General Harrison selected to represent the United States in South America, then in a state of Revolution, where he would have to act in all the emergencies which revolution might produce, and act too promptly upon his own judgment and his own resources. Of the manner in which he discharged this high duty, I shall speak hereafter.

I pass now to his military career.

After receiving a liberal education at one of our Southern Seminaries, the Indian wars, which then raged upon our Western border, aroused his active spirit and he entered the army as an Ensign of artillery, at the early age of eighteen years, soon after the disastrous defeat of St. Clair.

He was early promoted to a Lieutenancy and selected by that gallant general of the Revolution, Anthony Wayne, to be one of his Aids de-Camp. In this capacity he served in several campaigns and fought in the desperate battle of the Miami. Gen. Wayne, in his public despatches, spoke of Harrison's services in terms of decided approbation. At the age of twenty four he left the army and entered upon civil employment as I have before stated.

It was not until the year 1811, and then as Governor of Indiana, that he was called upon to resume the sword. An Indian war having broken out he assembled a body of militia and volunteers with which and 350 regular troops he fought the celebrated and important battle of Tippecanoe. The President of the United States thought this event worthy to be noticed by a message to Congress in which he speaks of the conduct of General Harrison in honorable terms of deserved commendation. A corps of Kentucky militia were in the battle. How and others best competent to decide may be seen by the following resolution passed by the Legislature of Kentucky.

'Resolved, That in the late campaign against the Indians on the Wabash, Governor W. H. Harrison has, in the opinion of this legislature, behaved like a hero, a patriot, and a general; and that for his cool, deliberate, skilful, and gallant conduct, in the late battle of Tippecanoe, he deserves the warmest thanks of the nation.'

But what, to my mind, is stronger evidence still of the high estimation in which he was held is the extraordinary fact that after the declaration of the war of 1812, General Harrison, then a citizen of another State, was by the Commonwealth of Kentucky made a Major General in her militia in order that he might command all the troops she was then raising for actual service. Thus did that gallant State, pre-eminent for chivalrous daring and justly proud of her achievements in arms, sacrifice her State pride and supersede her own high officers solely from a conviction of Harrison's great superiority.

In the autumn of 1812, he was appointed by the goverment of the United States Commander in Chief of the North Western Army. Of the confidence reposed in his ability and patriotism, some judgment may be formed by the unlimited discretion with which he was invested. The letter of the Secretary of War which enclosed his commission, said to him, 'You will command such means as may be practicable—exercise your own discretion, and act in all cases according to your own judgment.'

In this command he achieved the gallant defence of Fort Meigs, which was invested with a formidable force by the British General Proctor and his savage allies, confident of success. Harrison by bold and successful sorties, executed under his orders, drove them from their batteries, and finally compelled them to retreat. He afterwards followed them to Malden, which had been their strong hold, but which they now abandoned, and continued his progress till he overtook them near the river Thames. General Proctor selected his own ground, a strong position having the river on his left and a swamp on his right. But Harrison, by a bold and judicious movement, broke through his centre, attacked him in rear and front, and in a brief space of time, captured nearly the whole British force with several brass pieces, the trophies of our revolution, which General Hull had ingloriously surrendered at Detroit. The victory was brilliant, and decisive.

This was the celebrated Battle of the Thames, which secured to General Harrison the gratitude of the public, for which Congress presented to him a vote of thanks, and which an eminent statesman, Langdon Cheves, formerly Speaker of the House of Representatives, declared on the floor of Congress, would have secured to a Roman General, in the best days of the Republic, the honors of a triumph.'

General Harrison had been called, by his country, to military command because formidable enemies were in the field, and a great emergency required his services. When the exigency had ceased, unwilling to eat the bread of idleness he resigned his commission and returned to civil pursuits. Such is the man to whom it is objected that he has been a military commander—who 'drew his sword only when the necessities of his country required it, and sheathed it again the moment that that necessity had passed away.

From the National Gazette of Jan. 3.

We observe with great satisfaction that the Standing Committees appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives have a majority of Whig chairmen. The whole course of the administration and of its supporters in Congress has fully proved a determination to smother enquiry into the abuses of the government, and the causes of the unexampled expenditure of money in the management of national affairs. The opportunity seems now to be afforded in the action of the Committees of the House to learn the full extent of the corruptions, extravagance and direct frauds by which the Federal executive has been enabled to maintain its present degree of power against the long continued opposition of an ascertained majority of the whole people.

The actual losses of the Treasury constitute in the view of any honest citizen but an inconsiderable portion of the evils incident to the principles and conduct of the President and his subordinates. We have every where the glaring and disgraceful evidences of moral decadence among men in office of pecuniary trust. An ignorant and spiteful system of tampering with the currency has unsettled all business, varied the value of real and personal property and opened to financiers in and out of office an unbounded field for mal-practice and peculation of a government or bank functionary, even to a trifling amount, excited popular regret and indignation, social disgrace and legal prosecution. Now, not a week, we say, not a week passes without the announcement of some monstrous fraud, committed by men in stations of vast trust, and of profit which should raise them above the necessity of encroaching upon other means of support. The Administration with its organs endeavors to veil the odium of these iniquities from itself by an outcry against Banks and Credit. But Banks and Credit existed before this Administration, and in every condition of prosperity or depression the instances of fraud in any public office were very rare and of no moment. The lapses of the present day are due them to another source and that source is the source of the federal executive, which has made political profession the gage of qualification for the most important offices, which has tempted its own agents and those of the banks with the glitter of treasury funds, and created such obscurity and confusion during eight or ten years past in all moneyed concerns, that scoundrels in office have had ample opportunity to speculate and to filch without the chance of early detection or punishment. The purity of every Administration prior to Jackson's, fairly indicated by the acts of their functionaries and the moral tone of the people at large, [illegible] such tests in the presidential terms of himself and his successor. The government and the nation are disgraced by villainies and mortified by misfortunes which flow wholly from the noxious influences and action of the former.

For the remedy of these ills we must look to the House of Representatives. The country expects of the Committees just appointed an immediate, systematic and thorough investigation into every Department. We have in the course of our remarks upon the President's message, shown from his partial exhibitions and commentaries upon the state of the Treasury particularly, that he would gladly hide the truth, and dreads the search of honest and intelligent men into the affairs of his cabinet. Astounded and shocked as the people have been by many past disclosures, there doubtless remain materials for the exhibition of official knavery not less enormous than that which has already transpired. No honest enquirer is satisfied with any reason yet given for the increase of national expenditure to nearly quadruple the sum required under Mr. Adam's administration.

A CURIOUS LOVE LETTER.

MADAM,

Most worthy of estimation! After long consideration and much meditation the great reputation you possess in the nation, I have a strong inclination to become your relation. On your approbation of this declaration, I shall make a preparation to remove my situation to a more convenient station to possess my admiration, and if such oblation is worthy of observation and can obtain commiseration, it will be an aggrandization beyond all calculation, of the joy and exultation of

Yours,
SANS DISSIMULATION.

THE ANSWER.

SIR,

I perused your oration with much deliberation and a little consternation, at the great infatuation of your weak imagination to shew such veneration on so slight a foundation. But after examination and serious contemplation, I suppose your animation was the fruit of recreation, or had sprung from ostentation to display your education, by an old enumeration, or rather multiplication, of words of the same termination, though of great variation, in each respective signification.

Now, without disputation, your laborious application, to so tedious an occupation, deserves commendation, & thanking imitation a sufficient gratification, I ween, without hesitation,

Yours,
MARY MODERATION.

An important decision concerning slave property has been made by the Federal Court at Jackson, Mississippi. Judge Guion presiding. The Natchez Free Trader says it was decided in the case of Dickinson vs Rose, by which the doctrine is established, that all contracts for negroes brought into the State of Mississippi and sold "AS MERCHANDISE," subsequent to the first day of May, in the year 1833, are illegal, and as such are null and void. This decision consists in part of necessity have an important bearing on Mississippi property, to northern negro traders, to the amount of at least two millions of dollars.

This decision is based on the second section of the article under the head of "Slavery" in the amended constitution of the State in these words:—

SEC. 2. The introduction of slaves into this State, as merchandize or for sale, shall be prohibited from and after the first day of May 1833: Provided, That the actual settler shall not be prohibited from purchasing slaves in any State in this Union, and bringing them into this State for their own individual use, until the year 1845.

According to the Ohio Republican, published at Zanesville, flour has been selling by retail there, for some weeks past, at three dollars a barrel. The editor, after stating this fact, says, in continuation:—"What it might be purchased for at wholesale, if there were cash to purchase, we cannot say; but we know as we stated a short time ago, that a thousand barrels were offered at two dollars and seventy-five cents per barrel, and no purchasers found at that price. We are inclined to think it might be had for less now." And the Gazette of the same place has this list of the prices of provision and produce current there:—Wheat is worth 50 cents—flour $2 —pork by the hund at $3 50 to $4—clay $7 to $7 50 per ton. Corn about 25 cents. In the provision market a dollar goes considerably further than it did this time last year."

GRAIN.

There is a new feeling coming to be recognized in Europe, touching the grain trade. We find the following in a Havre paper of the 24th:

Our population have now an opportunity of witnessing the good effects of free trade in corn; already nine thousand barrels of flour have been imported from the United States and more is expected. Until now wheat has been held very high, but the knowledge of these facts has not been slow to produce their effect, and yesterday the price fell four francs per sack.

In England they are suffering under prohibitory duties—they suffer for want of wheat which could be easily supplied. One of the papers there thus speaks of the grain market:

The grain markets remain unchanged—the old quality of English wheat preventing the decline of the duty, which remains at 18s 8d per quarter on foreign wheat, and 6s 5d per barrel of flour of 196 pounds.

We find the following with reference to the north of Europe:—

Advices from St. Petersburg state that the accounts of the harvests from the different governments in Russia are very satisfac-

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Gentlemen of the Senate,
and of the House of Delegates:

The pecuniary embarrassments, of the State, and the present condition of the works of internal improvement, are the most important subjects that will come under your consideration. The public debt of Maryland, according to a statement furnished by the Treasurer, amounts to fourteen millions five hundred and eighty-seven thousand six hundred & eighty-nine dollars. This sum includes but five thousand five hundred dollars, of the loan of seven hundred & fifty thousand dollars, granted at the last session, to the Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail Road Company. The bonds for the residue of this loan are not yet disposed of, and are still in the possession of the Commissioner of Loans. Of the million of dollars subscribed to the Eastern Shore Rail Road, and of the three hundred thousand subscribed to the Annapolis and Elk Ridge Rail Road, the estimate of the Treasurer includes only that portion which has been actually paid.

So far as the State is liable for the balance of these subscriptions, or for the bonds issued for the use of the Susquehanna Rail Road Company, an addition is to be made to the Treasurer's estimate. It is therefore difficult to state precisely the amount of the public debt. Some uncertainty in ascertaining it, also arises from the substitution of five per cent. sterling bonds, for those previously issued, at the rate of four dollars and forty-four cents for the pound sterling instead of the true rate of four dollars and eighty-five cents; which makes a considerable difference in the whole amount.

This State received as its portion of the surplus revenue, 958,528 dollars; of which there remains a balance of 617,-647 dollars deposited in the Union Bank, the Franklin Bank, and the Bank of Baltimore. As the General Government is not likely to reclaim the sums distributed among the states, the portion received by this State is not estimated at present, as a part of its public debt, on the contrary, the balance remaining may be considered as so much added to its means of complying with other engagements. Of the old productive capital of the State, there is still left the sum of 523,996 dollars, invested in the stock of different banks. The Sinking Fund has been gradually accumulating, and it now amounts to 1 013,372 dollars; nearly the whole of which sum has been invested in State stocks. After deducting the Sinking Fund, the debts and liabilities of the State probably amount to fifteen millions of dollars; and with the exception of 258,525 dollars, have, all been contracted for purposes of internal improvement.

The interest on the public debt is increasing every year, in proportion to the amount of stock sold. The amount payable at the loan office in Baltimore in 1838, was 280,000 dollars; in 1839, it was 291,000, and in 1840, it will be $330 000. The interest payable at London cannot be ascertained, because no report has been made to the Treasurer of the sales of our stock in foreign markets. The amount is inconsiderable at present, but it will be increased as the stock finds purchasers.—The Internal Improvement Companies are bound to pay the interest on their respective portions of the public debt, before it becomes due from the Treasury. Of those that have had advances from the State, the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company is the only one which has fully complied with its engagements. The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company is bound to pay annually 120,000 dollars for interest on the two million loan granted in 1834. It paid the whole interest in 1838 but only $95,-000 in 1839. The Treasury had a claim on the Susquehanna Rail Road Company in 1838 for interest to the amount of 64 000 dollars, and received 20,000. And in 1839 to the amount of 79,062 dollars and 08 cents, and received only 82 dollars and 50 cents.—These two companies do not yet receive a sufficient revenue from their works to defray current expenses, and are obliged to depend on loans or the sale of stock, for the fulfilment of their engagements. These means having failed in 1839, in consequence of the scarcity of money, they were unable to satisfy the demands of the Treasury.

The annual revenue of the State, exclusive of interest paid by the Internal Improvement Companies, is barely sufficient to defray the ordinary expenses of government, which are estimated for the ensuing year, at two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The whole expenditures, including the interest of the public debt, greatly exceed the annual receipts; and the deficiency in the revenue is supplied out of the special deposites. This fund, if applied to this purpose alone, will be exhausted in two or three years, and the bank stock will be the next resource for meeting the deficiency, unless some other means be provided in the mean time. Experience has proved that the Internal Improvement Companies cannot be relied on, for the punctual payment of their respective portions of the interest of the public debt, as it becomes due from the Treasury.

The State entered by degrees into a connexion with Canal and Rail Road Companies, and still more cautiously into the plan of borrowing money for their support. At the extra session of 1836, the decisive measure was adopted, of authorising the issue of bonds to the amount of eight millions of dollars, and of sending them to foreign markets for sale. At that time money was abundant, American securities were in demand, and the credit of the State stood unimpaired; and very little doubt was entertained, that the bonds could be disposed of according to the terms prescribed by the act of Assembly. But the following year when the Commissioners, who were appointed to negotiate the proposed loan, visited Europe for that purpose, a great change had taken place in the money markets, and it was found impossible to sell the bonds at the stipulated price. After their return, they concluded an agreement with the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, and the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, for the sale of a large portion of the bonds, amounting to six millions of dollars. At December session 1837, the Legislature refused to sanction this agreement, because it was apprehended that the companies might be compelled to sacrifice the credit of the State; but assented to a modification of it, which required that none of the bonds should be transferred from the possession of the Commissioner of Loans, till their equivalent in money was paid into the Treasury, according to the conditions of the loan law of 1836. Yet at the same session, the Legislature directed the delivery of stock to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, to the amount of two millions five hundred thousand dollars. The bonds thus delivered to that company, were transferred to banks and capitalists on both sides of the Atlantic, to be held as pledges for temporary loans, or sold, at the option of the holders for whatever discredited stock would bring in a depressed market. The 5 per cent sterling bonds, issued in pursuance of the acts of last session, and delivered to the internal improvement companies, will probably pass through a similar course of degradation. When these companies are pressed by heavy engagements, which they generally contract without funds, they are compelled to sacrifice whatever securities come into their possession, for the purpose of saving their own credit, and preventing the immediate ruin of laborers and contractors. The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company was in this condition, when it received the 6 per cent. stock in 1838, and the additional 5 per cent. sterling stock, for one million three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, issued in pursuance of the act of last session. These stocks have been used in the payment of old debts, and the fulfilment of existing contracts, which could not be abandoned without the payment of heavy damages to the contractors. What loss will result, from the hypothecation and forced sale of the stock, the high interest of the loans for which it was pledged, and the payment of costs and commissions, it is impossible to ascertain; but the amount will considerably reduce the resources upon which the company relied for the completion of the Canal. The State has invested seven millions of dollars in loans and subscriptions for that work, which will yield neither interest nor dividend till it is finished to Cumberland. Between that place and the District of Columbia, there is no intermediate point, at which it can terminate with the least prospect of advantage to the State, or profit to the stockholders. When it reaches Cumberland, it will form, by means of a connexion with the National Road, a cheap and easy communication with the Ohio river, & will derive a profitable business from the transportation of coal, iron, merchandise, and agricultural produce. The State will then begin to derive some profit from her investments; and when it is extended to the Patapsco, as provided for in the charter, Baltimore will receive a large portion of the trade to which it will give rise. But the completion of the Canal, and the engagements of the company, will probably require three millions of dollars, in addition to the sums already advanced; and in the present condition of the Treasury, it is a subject of serious consideration, whether so large an addition could be made to the public debt, without entirely prostrating the credit of the State. It was on the duty of the Executive, by an act of the last session, to propose on the part of the State, to finish the Canal to Cumberland, on condition of receiving a transfer of the stock held by the General Government in the Canal Company; and that proposition has been accordingly communicated to the President of the United States.—If acceded to by Congress, it will be the province of the Legislature to provide means for carrying it into effect. A report of the present condition of the company is expected, and will be communicated to the two Houses as soon as it is received.

The Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, until recently, has avoided the error of entering into engagements beyond its means. After the completion of the Washington Branch, its attention was directed more to the repairs and improvement of that part of the main stem which had been previously finished, than to the extension of its works towards the Ohio. The two lines of road now in operation, afford great facilities for travelling and for the transportation of goods and agricultural produce; and the Washington Branch yields a profit to the stockholders. The interest on the stock, issued to pay the State subscription, has been regularly discharged, and a considerable sum has been annually paid into the Treasury besides from the transportation of travellers on the Washington Road.

Preparations are now in progress for extending the main stem from Harper's Ferry to Wheeling; and the line between the former place and Cumberland has been put under contract. The distance from Harper's Ferry to Wheeling is two hundred and ninety two miles; and at a moderate estimate the whole work will cost ten millions of dollars. The means of the company, for completing the road between these points, consists of State stock, for three millions of dollars; of city stock, for the same sum; of the subscription of Wheeling, for one million, and of the contribution of Virginia, of two fifths of the expenditures within her limits, estimated at one million three hundred and thirty-eight thousand dollars. It is understood that no payments are expected from Virginia or Wheeling till the

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2940_scm11031-0708.jpg