EASTERN-SHORE WHIG AND PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE.

"THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS PERPETUAL VIGILANCE."

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☞ All communications to insure attention should be *post paid*

POETRY.

TO THEE.

I joy to think of thee, my love,
I joy to think of thee—
While my barque is gliding swift, my love
Far o'er the waters free!
And when I reach the land, my love,
Whatever spot it be,
My thoughts stay not on shore, my love,
But wander back to thee.

I roam along the streets, my love,
And many forms I see,
I care not for them all, my love,
They mind me but of thee;
Morn, noon, and starry night, my love,
Are all alike to me—
They bring but one dear thought, my love,
The thought of home and thee.

And when the moon rides high, my love,
O'er every wave and tree—
While gazing on that orb, my love
It tells my heart of thee!
And oft I ask the winds, my love,
As fast away they flee—
If thou in other lands, my love,
Art thinking oft of me.

Whene'er my head is pillowed, love,
Fond, busy, memory,
Will waken round the couch, my love,
Those hours I've spent with thee.
Again in dreams I see thee, love,
And list thy melody,—
Again my days are given, my love,
Alone to love and thee!

THE WANDERING BARD.

RUDIMENTS OF LOAFING.—The following rules are suggested for the government of beginners:—

Rule 1. Seek out some place where the occupants desire to do private business in a private manner.

Rule 2. Ascertain the business time of the day and stay there then, at all events.

Rule 3 Take no hints that your company is not desired—a kick is the only intimation that a true Loafer is allowed to understand.

Rule 4. If you see any one writing, begin to talk to him; and if he expresses his desire to be uninterrupted by not answering, be sure to put direct questions, so as to compel him to answer, or insult you by some retort upon your impudence.

Rule 5. No matter how great or severe an insult may be, it is beneath the trade of a loafer to notice it.

Rule 6. Should all attempts at conversation fail, take up a newspaper or a book and read aloud. If you are requested to stop, mind it not, but read on, saying, "what is it to you how loud I read?"

Rule 7. Should any private paper be accidentally laid down, be sure to read it—and it is the height of loaferism to look over any one's shoulder to learn the contents of any note or letter that he may be reading.

Rule 8. The most difficult rule to follow, but one absolutely necessary for a loafer of the first water, is to look down a man's throat to see what he had for breakfast—it is, however, to be remembered that perseverance overcomes all difficulties.

These are a few primary rules, to be studied and got by heart, and practiced upon all occasions, with friends and strangers.

TURNING STATES EVIDENCE—A good story has been told of George White, who was once arraigned for horse stealing, when it was supposed he was connected with an extensive gang which was making great depredations in the country around about. Many inducements were held out to White to reveal the names of his associates, but he manifested a dogged silence. An assurance from the court was at last obtained that he should be discharged, upon which he made oath to reveal all he knew of his accomplices. The jury was accordingly suffered to return a verdict of not guilty when he was called upon for the promised revelation —I shall be faithful to my word,' said he; be it known unto you, then, that the Devil is the only accomplice I ever had; we have been a great while in partnership; you have seen fit to acquit me—for which I thank you; you may hang the Devil when you can catch him!'

THE CEDARS OF LEBANON.—Fifteen of the sixteen famed Cedars of Lebanon are still alive, but are all more or less in a state of decay, and one of them is remarkable for three immense trunks, proceeding from the same stump, at a short distance above the soil. Another, one of the healthiest of the old trees, though perhaps the smallest measured 33 feet French (85 feet 9 inches English) in circumference. All the trees are much furrowed by lightning, which seems to strike them more or less every year. In the middle of these old trees are about forty other cedars, comparatively young, though the trunk of the smallest of them is from 10 to 12 feet in circumference. At the base of eight or nine of the old cedars are altars constructed with large rough stones which were formerly used by the inhabitants of the Maronite villages, who headed by their Pastor, went to El Herze on the day of Transfiguration. At this festival all the priests said mass at the same time, each priest officiating at the foot of the cedar belonging to his own village. Disputes having however arisen from this practice, the patriarchs of the Maronites has made a new arrangement; and now, though the Maronites still continue on the festival of the Transfiguration to repair to El Herze, only one mass is celebrated, which is performed on the altar of a different cedar every year, in order that the trees of all the villages in turn may enjoy the same privilege. There is not one young cedar in all the wood of El Herze.

ANNUAL MESSAGE

FROM THE GOVERNOR TO THE LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate,
and of the House of Delegates:

YOUR being assembled after the first election that has been held since the adoption of the amendments to the Constitution, in regard to the Executive and Legislative Departments, affords me an appropriate occasion to congratulate you, and our fellow citizens generally, that those amendments have been effected without violence or disturbance in any quarter; without interruption to any of the functions of Government, and in strict conformity with the requirements of the organic law itself. This result, whilst it illustrates beautifully and brightly, the forecast of the great and good men who devised our Form of Government, adds another to the many testimonials already indelibly written in the history of our country, that the American People are endued with the moderation, the virtue and intelligence, necessary to fit them for self government. I am firmly persuaded that these changes were called for by the exigencies of the times, and by the wishes of a large majority of the people of Maryland; and I entertain no fear that their operation will prove to be other than beneficial in all future time. Our Form of Government now, in every respect, exemplifies and vindicates Republican principles. These are the prevailing principles of the age, and distinguish the Institutions of our beloved country, from those of any other in the civilized world. Their influences and tendencies can never be dangerous, so long as they are fortified by the lights of education, and restrained by the solemn obligations of moral law. It is, then, the imperative duty of those, who shall be clothed, from time to time, with the direction of our public affairs, to use every effort to keep the public mind properly informed; to devise and perfect schemes, which shall place within the reach of every, the humblest citizen, the individual means of education; to elevate, so far as it can be done, consistently with the letter and spirit of our laws, the tone of public morals: to encourage love of order by example, and the deliberative, cautious enactment of penal statutes: to preserve inviolate, individual rights, and the public faith: to defend with inexorable determination, the majesty of the laws: and to protect from the rude grasp of demagogues, the independence of those whose peculiar and delicate responsibility it is, to expound it. A Democracy, encompassed by influences such as these, is the most secure and the happiest Government, that the wisdom and goodness of the Almighty have ever permitted the human intellect to frame

During the past summer and autumn, our fellow citizens have had abundant reason to be thankful to an over-ruling Providence, for the health which has pervaded all parts of our State, the prosperity which has marked every branch of industry, and the consequent peace and contentment exhibited in all the conditions of life The resumption of specie payments by the Banks on the 13th of August last, has unquestionably contributed largely to this general prosperity. The conduct of those institutions, through the gloomy and perilous period of the suspension, their prompt and unceasing efforts to relieve, to the extent of their abilities, the embarrassments of the community, and to protect the various interests committed to their charge, and their evident anxiety to resume the payment of their obligations in the precious coins, so soon as it could be done consistently with higher considerations, entitle them to the respect and confidence of the Legislature, and of every class of our People.

As I consider the vigorous prosecution, and early completion, of the works of Internal Improvement of vital importance to the State, I cannot withhold the expression of the continued and deep solicitude I feel upon this subject. The spirit of Internal Improvement is the characteristic of the age: it pervades this country: it is rife in Great Britain: it is extending over the Continent of Europe, and it has recently accomplished the gigantic feat of subjecting the ocean that divides the old world from the new, to the mastery of steam Its progress is every where marked by the development of national resources, and the multiplication of the avenues of individual wealth and prosperity. Situated, geographically, as Maryland is, there is, perhaps no State in the Union, more dependent upon Internal Improvements, nor one that offers greater advantages for the prosecution of the system.—The territory of the State; lying for a long distance on both sides of the Chesapeake Bay, encloses its head waters, and, gradually narrowing, extends far westwardly along the Potomac to the northern fountain of that River, where it again widens, so as to embrace one of the richest mineral districts of the United States. The chief city of Maryland, at the western extremity of the Chesapeake is thus brought nearer to the region, watered by the Mississippi, and its tributaries, than any other of the cities on the Atlantic sea board, and the great high way to the West, opened by the Potomac through the mountains, not only finds its appropriate terminus at Baltimore, but passes through, and throws open to capital, industry and skill, the inexhaustible treasures of coal and iron, which, but for such avenue to market, would be comparatively, inaccessible & valueless.—Two of the principal works in which the State is interested, will not only answer the most important purpose connecting the Emporium of the State with the vast country beyond the Alleghanies in the closest bonds of commercial intercourse, but at the same time, they will develope to their utmost extent, resources, whose value to the State must far exceed the entire sum that she can be called upon to contribute.

I herewith lay before you (being Document marked A.) the twelfth Annual Report of the President and Directors, to the Stockholders, of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company. This report presents distinctly, the financial situation of the Company, shews an evident improvement in its general condition, and offers new proof that its management is in hands entirely competent to the arduous task. It appears that in the month of November last, the Stockholders, in general meeting, determined to pursue the Virginia route from Harper's Ferry, rather than the route on the Northern Bank of the Potomac, as indicated by the act of 1835, chapter 395, for the reason that the cost of the construction of the road on the former route, will be less by $2,083,917, and the actual loss of capital by pursuing the latter route, would have been equivalent to $3,683,820.

No official report has been furnished to the State Department, by the President and Directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company but I have been informed, in a letter recently received from the President of that Company, that he designs, at an early period of the session, to present a report shewing the progress that has been made in the construction of the Canal, the present condition of the Company, and its future prospects.—The work has been prosecuted, I learn, with all the energy and despatch, which the means of the Company justified, but under circumstances of much difficulty and embarrassment. The delay of two years before the subscription on the part of the State of three millions of dollars to the stock of the Company, could be rendered in any manner available, and the protracted discussions of the last session of the Legislature, involving questions as to the obligations of the State, under her subscription, and the validity of the contract made between the Commissioners of the State and the Company, had the effect greatly to impair the credit of the Company, to excite distrust and alarm in the minds of the contractors, who declined making engagements with laborers, and consequently to retard the progress of the work. No sale of the certificates of debt of the State, which were received, in virtue of the contract with the commissioners, has been effected: the Company preferring to raise means by temporary hypothecations of the certificates in this country and England, rather than by forced sales, to incur sacrifices alike injurious to the credit of the State, and to the interests of all the Internal Improvement Companies designated by the act of 1835.

In addition to the heavy demands for the prosecution of its own work, and the payment of interest to the State on the two million loan, the Company have been compelled to make large advances to the Eastern Shore and the Annapolis and Elk Ridge Rail Road Companies, for the prosecution of their respective works, in compliance with a Resolution of the Legislature of the 29th of March last.

Notwithstanding all these discouragements, the Canal has been steadily pressed forward, and a force varying from twenty five hundred to three thousand hands, kept in constant employment.

I am assured that the line of the Canal from Dam No. 5, eight miles above Williamsport, to Dam No. 6, near the mouth of Great Cacapon River, a distance of about thirty miles, is so near completion, that the water will certainly be admitted during the present winter, and the entire line of one hundred and forty miles, will be in good order, and ready for the reception of the Spring trade. Of the remainder of the line, from the Great Cacapon to Cumberland, some of the sections are already finished, and others in a state of great forwardness; and most of the heavy sections and masonry are under contract, and in progress. It is believed, with adequate means at command, the entire work may be completed in the year 1840.

I submit to your consideration the policy of so modifying the terms of the act of 1835; chapter 395, as regards the certificates or bonds now issued, so as to render them more available to the several companies intended to be benefitted, and alike protective of their interests, and those of the State, which are in fact inseparable.

I herewith, also submit the report of the President and Directors of the Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail Road Company, (being Document marked B.) Their work has been, within the last year, brought so far to completion, that the travel upon it has, for some months been opened between Baltimore and the Borough of York in Pennsylvania. This road furnishes access to a highly important region of a neighboring State, but the road intended to unite its present terminus with the Susquehanna, opposite Columbia, is still incomplete. The report states that in consequence of the road not being complete, the Company has been unable to meet the payments of interest due to the State, for the last two quarters. But the confident expectation is expressed that the work will be in full operation, at the opening of the Spring trade, and that thereafter, this difficulty will not again occur.

No official communications have reached the State Department from the Eastern Shore Rail Road Company, or the Annapolis and Elk Ridge Road Company. It is understood, however, that each of these works is being industriously prosecuted, and will be speedily finished.

Another work, of great importance, and deserving high consideration, to which I take leave to refer, is the Tide Water Canal, from Columbia to Havre de Grace. This has been undertaken solely by individuals, to whom the immense trade that must be carried upon it will, no doubt, afford a profitable and ample remuneration. It is forty five miles in length, and is in immediate communication with the most important portion of the Canal system of Pennsylvania, to which in fact it is the natural and appropriate outlet on tide water.—Its estimated cost was $2,500,000 of which about $1,700,000 have been expended. The work is reported to be three fourths done, and if no difficulty of a pecuniary character intervenes, it is understood that the Canal will be ready for use by the first of July next. The goods and produce, Coal, Lumber and Iron, brought by this work to Havre de Grace, must be shipped from thence to Baltimore, and elsewhere: thus affording ample employment to the large interest, already existing in the nagivation of the Chesapeake.

I do not feel myself at liberty to dwell longer on the interesting subject of Rail Roads & Canals, and will, therefore content myself with observing that when the works, above alluded to, shall have been completed, little doubt can be entertained but that they will prove profitable to the State, and our enterprizing citizens. Upon this point experience is most satisfactory; and Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and other States are now enjoying the results of the philosophy which embarked them in the system of Internal Improvement.

By the report of the Managers of the State Colonization Fund, herewith submitted, (being Document marked C,) it appears that the fund, during the last year has been applied, through the agency of the State Colonization Society, in the removal of the free people of Color, who were willing to emigrate to the Colony from Maryland, at Cape Palmas, as well as to the improvement and preparation of the Colony, with a view to further emigration. The disbursements of the State Managers seem to have been judiciously regulated, and the conduct of these gentlemen, whose responsible office is without emolument & whose only compensation is the consciousness of doing good commends itself to favor and approval.

From what is reported by the State Managers, it would appear that the spirit of abolition has been actively disseminated from abroad among the free people of colour of Maryland, and that it exhibits itself in opposition to the plan of Colonization against which, particularly is carried on in Maryland, the efforts of the abolitionists have been principally directed.—Wherever abolition doctrines find footing among the free people of color they are found exhorting one another to remain in the State, alleging that this is all that is necessary to procure for them what they call their rights, by which they mean equality of condition, social and political, with the whites; and the State Colonization Society reports that in very many instances families of free coloured people, who have determined to emigrate, and have sold their property, and otherwise prepared to embark for Cape Palmas, have been diverted from their purpose by the insidious and mischievous falsehoods, and the treacherous and deceitful promises of the abolitionist. In reference to this condition of things, it would seem the wisest course that could be adopted to cherish colonization, as the uncompromising antagonist of abolition; of its value in this respect, no better proof can be given than is furnished by the conduct of the abolitionists themselves, who, did they not deem it their most powerful opponent, would not wage against it the warfare which all their publications and all their agents are mainly employed in carrying on.

The report of the State Colonization Society, which, accompanies that of the Managers of the State Fund represents the condition of the Maryland Colony as highly encouraging, and shows that the Society, countenanced by the State Managers, is judiciously preparing the Colony to receive with ease & comfort increased emigration from Maryland, which the gradual exposure of the fallacy of the arguments of the abolitionists, who are the worst foes of the colored race, and the pressure of circumstances must inevitably produce. The State Society represents that the plan of independent State action first adopted in Maryland, and which repudiates all extraneous and unsolicited interference with the subject of slavery, continues to find general acceptance amongst our Southern Neighbors, and to promote in an efficient and most encouraging manner, the operation of Colonization in Maryland.

The case of the city of Baltimore and Robert Lemmon, in which the constitutionality of the act of 1827, chapter III, regulating sales at auction, was involved; was argued at the last june Term of the Court of Appeals, by the Attorney General and John V. L. McMahon Esquires, in behalf of the State, and the Judgment of Baltimore City Court was affirmed, denying the right of the Corporation of that city to recover the penalty fixed by ordinance, to prohibit sales at auction, without a city licence. This question securing permanently to the State, a revenue of about $18,000 annually, and settles beyond all controversy an exciting and long vexed question.

By a communication recently received from the State Geologist, I am informed that he is now employed in preparing his annual report, which will be submitted in the course of the present session of the General Assembly. The service which has already been rendered to the agricultural and manufacturing interests of the State, by the Geological surveys heretofore made, the popularity which investigations have acquired, and the zeal, industry and learning, which this officer has manifested in the discharge of his duties, induce us to look for a continuance of these benefits which the State has been reaping from the liberal and wise measures of Legislation, which authorized the surveys, and as the expense is so inconsiderable, compared with the advantages resulting therefrom, it is hoped that the policy of continuing it will be persisted in.

I transmit for your consideration, (being Document marked D,) the annual report of the Directors of the Maryland Penitentiary, of the condition of that Institution, during the year ending on the 20th of November last. It will be seen that the entire expenditures of the year for all purposes connected with the Penitentiary, amount to $45,921,18, and that the products of the labor of the prisoners have sufficed to defray those expenditures in the sum of $26,126: of this however, $7,649,37, do not properly belong to the ordinary expenses of the Institution. The causes of this deficiency are fully accounted for by the Directors. They were foreseen, and emphatically set forth by them in two memorials, laid before the Legislature, in the mouths of February and March last, in which temporary aid was asked for, in a crisis of an all pervading extraordinary pecuniary distress. If this aid had been granted, the Institution would have been enabled, the Directors believe, to meet all its engagements. The sacrifices, moreover, arising from the forced sales of its manufactures, would have been prevented, and consequently the Institution would have required his assistance, at the hands of the Legislature, but will now be necessary to enable it to resume its wonted course of general prosperity.

I will proceed, as briefly as may be, to lay before you a statement of the duties I have performed, as required of me by several laws and resolutions of the last General Assembly.

The Resolutions No. 79 of December session 1837, directs the appointment of a Commissioner "to repair to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and endeavor to procure the dismissal of the prosecutions pending against Nathan S. Betts, Jacob Forwood, Edward Prigg and Stephen Lewis, citizens of Maryland," who had been indicted in April 1837, in York county, for kidnapping, and subsequently demanded by the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, as fugitives from justice, "or to make such arrangements as may be necessary to refer the questions involved, to the Supreme Court of the United States, without compromitting the liberty of the accused: and obtain such modifications of the laws of Pennsylvania as will preserve the rights of slaveholders, and cherished good will between the two States." Accordingly, on the 28th day of March last, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, I appointed Jonathan Meredith Esquire, of the city of Baltimore to execute the purposes, contemplated by the resolution above recited. I herewith submit a letter (document marked E.) from Mr. Meredith, by which it appears that, immediately after his appointment, he proceeded to the seat of government of the State of Pennsylvania, and after an interview with His Excellency Governor Ritner, he thought it most expedient to postpone the further prosecution of his mission until the next meeting of the Legislature of that State, because the Legislature was about to close its session; and he was assured there was no probability, it would devote time sufficient for the settlement of the very important subjects upon which he was charged to negotiate. He was induced, however, by the governor to believe that he would introduce them to the notice of the Legislature in his annual communication, at the opening of the next session.

The unhappy disturbances which have recently prevailed in the government of our sister State, have deterred him from resuming the negotiation. Now however that tranquility is apparently restored he will doubtless proceed to the discharge of the duties of his mission.

Early in April last, as required by the act of Dec. session 1837, ch. 333, I appointed three discreet persons, in each of the wards of the city: of Baltimore, as Registers of voters, within the said city who, at the time, and in the manner, prescribed by that act, proceeded to perform the duties reposed in them, & in compliance with the direction contained in the 31st section thereof, the Registers on the fifteenth day of October last, transmitted to me a certificate of the number of ballots deposited by legal voters, declaring their approval or disapproval of all the names of the act, together with the number of all the names of the legal voters. That certificate is herewith laid before you, (being Document marked F.) by which it appears, that, a majority of the legal voters, within the city of Baltimore, have declared their approval of the provisions of the law. Upon receiving the notice required to be given to the Governor, by the presiding officers of the two Houses of Assembly, I will, instantly, and with great cheerfulness, in the further pursuance of its provisions, issue my proclamation, declaring the law to be in full force and effect. This calm and dispassionate decision of the citizens of Baltimore, affords lofty evidence of their just appreciation of the value and importance of the elective franchise, and of their zealous endeavors and determination to protect it as one of the great bulwarks of Civil Freedom. The right to express his sentiments, by the agency of the ballot box, is the most sacred and the dearest, with which a freeman can be invested: and the patriot should ever be on the watch for its inviolable preservation, and ready, under all circumstances to make extraordinary sacrifices in its defence. The elective franchise is the foundation upon which the fabric of Republican Institutions rests. If therefore we suffer a blow to be aimed there, by means of bribery, coercion, or the importations of spurious voters, or by reason of any pretext whatever, our institutions are at once threatened with a disorder which must at no distant period, consummate their entire prostration and ruin. I most anxiously invite the deliberations of the Legislature to this momentous topic, in the earnest hope and expectation, that they will early digest in their wisdom, remedies for the frauds and disgraceful evils which the election polls too frequently exhibit in many parts of our State. I have no hesitation, after mature reflection, in expressing the belief that a Registry of voters throughout the State, or at all events in the incorporated Towns, and adjoining counties, is a measure better calculated than any other to secure and limit the exercise of this invaluable privilege to those upon whom the constitution and the laws intended to bestow it.

In virtue of the power vested in me, by the act of the last session, chap. 313, I appointed Thomas Carroll a Commissioner, to purchase a lot of ground in the city of Baltimore, and to contract for erecting thereon, a platform, scale and building, for the purpose of weighing Live Stock, carried to Baltimore for sale. He proceeded to discharge the duties required of him, and on his apprising me of the completion of the contemplated improvements, on the 8th day of October last, I appointed Richard Wells, Weigh Master of Live Stock: who has since been actively engaged in the performance of his duties, as such. The vouchers of the expenditures made by the Commissioner, are now on file in the State Department.

During the month of June last, understanding that several fruitless efforts had been made, to rent or purchase from the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, the scales made use of in that City, for weighing Hay and Straw, and conceiving it to be my duty, to carry into effect the intentions of the General Assembly in this regard, as expressed in the act of Dec. session 1837, ch. 319, I gave authority to the Inspectors, who had been appointed by me in pursuance of the provisions of that law to purchase the necessary ground and to erect thereon and keep in repair two scales, the one in the western section, and the other in the eastern section of the City, for weighing Hay and Straw, brought there for sale. That duty has been performed by them, and they have returned to the State Department, vouchers of all the expenditures consequent thereon. Since their completion, I am informed the scales have been in successful operation.

The Legislature during its last session, ch. 173, in a spirit of benevolence, altogether worthy of commendation, appropriated the sum of one thousand dollars annually, to be applied under the direction of the Governor, for the instruction of indigent blind persons, inhabitants of this State. It has been a source of no ordinary gratification to me, to carry into effect the charitable designs of the Legislature, in behalf of this forlorn and helpless portion of our race. Their cause, by reason of the privations and the dependence to which they are necessarily subjected, addresses itself to the purest sympathies of the human heart. The Christian, the Philanthropist, the Statesman, can never fail to find a proper field for the exercise of his benevolence in providing for the physical succor and for the amelioration of the intellectual condition of those unfortunate beings. The successful efforts made, of late years, in our country, to found and sustain institutions, for their instruction, and the enterprise, ingenuity, perseverance and christian tenderness exhibited are worthy of all praise. From time to time, as applications have been made, I have selected such children as I thought most deserving of the State's bounty, and have directed them to be placed in the Pennsylvania Institution for the instruction of the Blind. A statement herewith submitted (marked G.) will shew the names, ages and places of residence of the pupils selected, and the time when each was received into the institution. No draft has yet been made on the Treasury on account of their support. I take leave respectfully to suggest that some Legislative provision be made to ascertain the number, the ages and the condition of the blind within our territorial limits. Such information would prove interesting for many purposes. and would enable those, upon whom the duty will hereafter devolve, to make the selections with entire justice to applications from all parts of the State. I further suggest that means be provided by the State for the transportation of the persons selected, from their homes to their destination. A provision of this nature seems to be required because generally of the extreme indigence of the parents or immediate friend of those selected to furnish them.

Under Resolution No. 48 of the last session, I appointed John N. Watkins, Esq. to prepare and superintend through the press. an Index of the Laws and Resolutions from December Session 1832, to December Session, 1837, inclusive. The work has been completed, and two hundred and fifty copies have been deposited in the State Library, subject to the disposal of the Legislature.

By the 9th of the series of Resolutions, No. 26 of the last session, relative to the loan negotiated by virtue of the act of December Session 1835, for the promotion of Internal Improvement, I was authorised to direct a survey to be made of the route from the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to the city of Baltimore, by the vallies of the Monocacy and Patapsco, and the route diverging from the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, at the mouth of Seneca River, to the said city, exclusively within the limits of this State, with the view of ascertaining whether it was practicable for the Maryland Canal Company to construct a Canal by either of said routes. In the month of June last, with the assent and approbation of the Honorable Joel R. Poinsett, Secretary of War, I invited Lt. Col. J. J. Abert, of the United States Corps of Topographical Engineers, to take charge of those surveys, believing that the high character he sustained for personal integrity, and his reputation, as an able Engineer, would make his appointment acceptable to all the parties interested, and would be a sure guaranty of the impartiality, accuracy, and fidelity, with which the duties would be discharged. Col. Abert has been occupied during the summer in conducting these surveys, and on Monday last, he forwarded to the State Department, a report and map, containing the results of his laborious researches, which are herewith submitted, (being Document marked H.) Want of time has prevented me from devoting to this report, the consideration which is so eminently due to it. It clearly sustains the opinion, heretofore given, that a Canal on either the Linganore or Seneca route, was impracticable, with a due supply of water. But a new route has been discovered and surveyed. about nine miles south of the Seneca route, passing the ridges in the vicinity of Brookville, and one hundred and twenty feet lower than the Seneca route, which, in consequence of the greater depression of its summit level, jasfifies the opinion that it is practicable in reference to due supply of water. The estimated cost of a Canal by this route, will be hereafter submitted by Col. Abert.

Under Resolution No. 16, of December Session 1832, I subscribed for one hundred and fifty copies of the "Statutory Testamentary Law," compiled by the Honorable Judge Clement Dorsey, and in the month of August last, that gentleman caused that number of copies to be deposited in the State Library. Upon receiving a certificate of the fact from the Librarian, in compliance with the direction contained in the Resolution, I ordered a warrant to be drawn on the Treasurer for the Western Shore, for nine hundred dollars, in payment therefor.

I herewith lay before you a communication from Thomas Shriver, Esquire, late Superintendent of the National Road, (Document marked K.) transmitting detailed abstracts of the tolls received, and expenditures made on the National Road from the 1st of October, 1837 to the 19th of May, 1838, the day on which he ceased to be Superintendent: also a communication from James Gadsden, Esquire, (Document marked L.) covering Resolutions of the Commercial Convention which sat at Augusta, Georgia, in the month of October last, recommending certain measures for the promotion of a direct trade between the Southern States and Foreign Countries: also a communication from the Governor of Georgia, (Document marked M.) forwarding Resolutions of the Legislature of that State, upon the subject of the refusal of the Executive of the State of Maine, to deliver up to the executive authority of Georgia, certain fugitives from justice, who had committed felony by stealing and carrying beyond the limits of the State, slaves, the property of citizens of Georgia: also a communication, (Document marked N.) from Major General Edmund P. Gaines, of the United States Army, forwarding a Diagram of his system of Rail Roads, as connected with the National defence. also a communication from the Consul of France, residing in Philadelphia, (Document marked O) proposing an interchange of Documents, relating to charitable institutions, between this State and the administration of the Parisian Hospitals; all of which I respectfully recommend to your favorable consideration.

I also lay before you a communication from the Governor of Maine, (Document marked P.) enclosing a resolution of the Legislature of that State, calling my attention to the necessity of enforcing the Laws of this State, against all persons who may be concerned in duelling within its territory, whether citizens of this State or not; and suggesting to the Legislature, the propriety of enacting further penal laws against the practice of duelling. In regard to this last communication I have to remark that whenever official information has reached me of violations of any of the laws of this State, in any case, in which I had the power to interfere, I have never failed to use my best efforts to cause the offenders to be brought within the jurisdiction of our Courts of Justice.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Delegates, the term for which, through the confiding indulgence of the General Assembly, I was, for the third time, elevated to the office of Chief Executive Magistrate, is about to expire: and in the course of a few days I shall retire to the shades of private