

of this work and direct its management. The great fallacy had been that the State of Maryland had undertaken this work for mere financial purposes, but he thought she had undertaken it for a higher and nobler purpose—to develop the resources of that great region, to throw open to civilization a land but hitherto trod by the savage.

He thought the proposition of the gentleman from Allegany was not only fraught with danger to the State, but with fraud. The result might be that you will have the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal under such direction that the State would lose her control by the failure to name her representatives. Mr. Wickes spoke with much ability, but the reporter was unable to do proper justice to his argument in consequence of the great confusion which prevailed on the floor.

Mr. McKaig would only say, Et tu Brute? He was surprised that the gentleman did not know better. The people of Allegany were much interested in this matter, and to show the feeling there, he would read an address issued by the representatives of that county, appealing to the citizens to go to the polls and cast their ballots for a Convention, and adducing as a great reason the necessity of changing the provision in the constitution relative to the canal. As for the debts, it was well known what they were. The books of the company should show, and the records of the committees show it. The State of Maryland was bound for these debts, but they did not ask the State to recognize it or to pay it, but to combine the bondholder with the stockholder, and perfect a plan to make the work pay.

The Convention then, at 3.30 P. M., took a recess until 7 o'clock.

SEVENTY-FOURTH DAY—EVENING SESSION.

The Convention met at 7 o'clock and ninety-four members answered to their names.

The report of the committee on public works was taken up.

The substitute proposed by Mr. Wilkinson for the third section was rejected.