

State. This application cannot be resisted without a well defined deflection from every principle of natural justice and expediency.

When the State of Maryland had already subscribed six hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars capital stock in the canal, a further appropriation of two millions of dollars as a loan was made on the part of the State; which sum, according to the estimates then presented *by this company* to the General Assembly of Maryland, was adequate to complete the canal to Cumberland. The State confided in the *accuracy of the estimates furnished, not by herself*, and made the appropriation of \$2,000,000, impressed with the belief that it would complete the work to Cumberland. The State had then invested \$2,625,000, and the Federal Government \$1,000,000, Washington city \$1,000,000, and Georgetown and Alexandria had invested each \$250,000. At that time Maryland had invested \$125,000 more than the General Government and all the District cities altogether.— The terminus of the canal was in the District, and to that spot most of the advantages were expected to flow.

In 1836 a statement and *revised* estimate was exhibited to the State of Maryland, and a further appropriation of \$3,000,000 was incurred to *complete* the canal to Cumberland, and to render available to the State, as well as to the General Government and the District cities, the money which had already been expended in its construction. Application was made to the General Government and also the District cities, and they refused to augment their appropriations. This State made the entire appropriation of \$3,000,000, with the assurance that this additional amount was ample to complete the work. The fact is now disclosed, that by the most *recently corrected* estimates of cost, this work cannot be completed at a less price than the further sum of \$3,000,000; and application is now being made to this generous State alone to make this additional advance to complete the work. Whether this last *corrected* estimate be adequate to complete it, will depend on contingencies over which the company cannot have entire control; and the accuracy of the past estimates does not at all invite the confidence of the Legislature.

On this great work, which is emphatically a "District work," this State has already invested \$5,625,000. If this great enterprise be not completed to the coal regions near to Cumberland, this investment of \$2,500,000 must be to *them* altogether unproductive; and is it not therefore both reasonable and just, if this *State* will advance \$3,000,000 more in the execution of an object equally beneficial to *them*, that they should surrender to the State the interest they now possess? The committee believe that a proper sense of justice and expediency will prompt them at once to make the proposed surrender to the State, on the condition contemplated by the bill now presented.

From the following tabular statement it will appear that if no further appropriation be made by the State, the canal will have available means equal to more than one million one hundred and sixty thousand dollars, after they shall have emancipated themselves from all pressing liabilities.