

A letter from the President of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company to the Chairman of the Committee on Internal Improvement, in answer to his letter of January 5th, 1831, enclosing an order of the House of Delegates.

CHESAPEAKE & DEL. CANAL OFFICE, }
Philadelphia, January 12, 1831.

To Archibald Lee, Esq.
Ch. Com. Int. Improv. H. of Del. Md.

Sir,—I have received and laid before the Directors of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company, your letter of the 5th inst. enclosing a copy of the proceedings of the General Assembly of Maryland, requiring information in relation to the works of Internal Improvement in which that state, "has invested funds." It affords me much pleasure to comply with the request; particularly as this work, which was deemed almost impracticable, has been brought to a successful completion; and the community already convinced of the great advantages that will be derived from it. Permit me to refer you to a report (herewith transmitted) which was made to the last Annual Meeting of Stockholders; as affording the means of acquiring full information of the state of the work, up to that time, since which period measures have been taken to increase the security of the Canal; and facilitate the intercourse through it; by increasing the width of the towing path; and by lining it with stone, nearly the whole extent, to prevent the abrasion caused by wares; such other improvements have been made in the erection of water weirs, alterations, in lock gates, &c. as were dictated by experience to be requisite, and the whole work placed in such state, as to render it, as far as practicable, secure from accidents, to which all newly made Canals are liable. In this respect the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal has been singularly fortunate; as from the 17th October, 1829, when it was opened for navigation, until the present time; it has not been closed a single day, except by ice for thirty days during last winter, and two days thus far in this. The work is so nearly finished in all its parts, that little more is required to be done; and but a small additional expenditure necessary to place it