

the people, which must continue and accumulate annually until it reaches Cumberland. There is no safe alternative between a vigorous prosecution of this work to Cumberland, and a virtual abandonment. Notwithstanding the embarrassment of our finances, and the derangement of the currency and business of the whole nation, your committee cannot persuade themselves that any portion of our people desire its abandonment. To abandon this great work, when with an expenditure of more than seven millions, it is upon the verge of perfection; to leave crumbling into ruins this gigantic structure, with all its magnificent aqueducts and architecture, instead of freighting its waters with the treasures which its mountains open to disclose; would be to imitate those who have placed in the midst of solitude and sand those useless fabrics, the pyramids, rather than those wiser men, who, with their lengthened and expensive canals, extended the fertilizing influences of the Nile, scattering plenteous blessings in their vicinage to the surrounding lands.

Let us imitate the perseverance of our fathers; and instead of leaving stretched along our territory in one continuous line this abasing memorial of our fickleness and timidity,—let us rather by one generous effort perfect it, and exhibit to the world, and to our children, a monument of the sublime and indomitable energies of Maryland, as enduring as the mountains in whose bosom her mineral treasures are unsealed, a genial fountain of nourishment and life.

**EDWARD A. LYNCH, Chairman.**