

COMMUNICATION.

ANNAPOLIS, February 5th, 1845.

To the Honorable

The Speaker of the House of Delegates.

SIR,—I have the honour herewith to communicate to the House of Delegates, the information called for by the order of the 21st of January, in relation to the sales, &c., of the bonds issued by this State to pay for the State's subscriptions to the capital stock of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal company. Immediately upon the passage of the order I transmitted a copy of it to the Treasurer and accountant of the company, with directions to prepare statements in conformity with its requirements. On the 24th of the month, he forwarded to me an answer, but it not appearing to cover the whole ground of enquiry, I returned it to him with a letter of instructions, a copy of which is hereunto appended, and he accordingly prepared and transmitted to me the accompanying statements, which I presume embrace the information desired as far as it is practicable to furnish it from the records of the company.

Most of the information now submitted has in various forms since the year 1839, been brought before the House of Delegates, and the subject was elaborately examined by the committee on Internal Improvements at the session of 1840-41, as will appear by reference to the printed testimony taken before said committee, and published as amongst the documents of that session.

No effort has however heretofore been made to *identify* the bonds sold by the company at the various prices at which they were disposed of, and the information now communicated on that branch of the enquiry is unavoidably imperfect. A large portion of the bonds were sold through the agency of Mr. Peabody, in London, and as in his report of sales from time to time, he has not specified the *numbers* of the bonds, there is nothing on file in the office of the company from which they can be ascertained. All that we at present can do in this behalf is to give a list of the bonds that were sent to him to be sold, which will be found in the statement marked "General Index." For a similar reason the same difficulty as respects identification, exists in regard to sales made by other agents of the company. I am informed by the Treasurer and accountant that the identification, as exhibited in the statement alluded to, is as full as it can be made from the records of his office. If the information be deemed important the company could probably