

where they recommended the construction of a suitable basin for the canal boats

The second location extended from Cumberland to the entrance of Georgetown, about two miles below the old locks of the Potomac canal. In other respects, both locations passed over very nearly the same ground, from unavoidable necessity.

The first location contemplated a canal forty-eight feet wide, at the water surface; thirty-three feet at bottom; and five feet deep: but recommended larger dimensions.

The last report, with the approbation of the department of war, pursued the request of the general committee of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal convention, and made corresponding estimates, for three canals, passing, as nearly as practicable, over the same ground, but having these several dimensions; one forty feet breadth, at the surface of the water, twenty eight feet at bottom, and four feet depth of water; another, of the dimensions adopted by the United States board of internal improvement; and a third, designed to correspond with the views of a prior committee of the house of representatives, which were to enlarge the canal, wherever practicable without much additional cost, to sixty feet; the breadth preferred by the United States board of internal improvement. The estimates per mile, of these several canals, were respectively, \$21,461 87; \$23,191 38; and \$23,985 79, but Messrs. Geddes and Roberts pronounced it "not feasible," on account of the vicinity of the river Potomac, and its rugged shore, to extend the canal to the enlarged breadth of 60 feet, 46 miles of the distance between Georgetown and Cumberland. Fifteen miles of such difficult ground, they reported to lie, between Georgetown and the east base of the Catoctin mountain, now called the "Point of Rocks;" 2 miles, between that point and Harper's Ferry; and forty-five miles, the residue of the sixty; above Harper's Ferry, or the Blue Ridge mountain

The Chesapeake and Ohio canal company, were incorporated, by a subscription of more than one-fourth of their nominal capital of six millions, as early as October, 1827, but the commissioners, under whose authority the books of subscription were opened, did not deem it proper to convene the stockholders, till the expected subscription of the United States had been obtained; and accordingly, did not convene them, for the purpose of organizing the company till the