

with confidence entertain the expectation that, at the next quarterly report, the progress made will sustain the propriety of the course adopted.

Since we have left the line, satisfactory arrangements have been made for the immediate prosecution of the work on the aqueduct.

In reference to the tunnel and its completion, the trustees have to report that, the arrangements made by McCullough and Day are, on the whole, satisfactory. It would have been better if McCullough & Day had made their arrangements for burning the brick at an earlier day. The delay has been occasioned by the same circumstances that influenced operations on work taken by Gonder & Co. The parties to the contract, during the interval of suspension, became so extensively engaged elsewhere, that their personal attention could not be commanded as promptly as should have been the case. It is, however, satisfactory to know that mainly through the exertions of Messrs. Hunter and Harris, who have for that purpose taken part in the contract, the arrangements for this work are now of a character to authorise the belief that it will be completed in the time expected.

The furnishing of the cement required for the masonry, has been undertaken by Messrs. Hunter, Harris & Co. themselves. The arrangements for that object are as follows :

They have contracted with George Shafer, at the Mill below dam No. 6, to burn, grind and deliver at the mill 120,000 bushels, at the rate of 12,000 bushels per month, if required, and with Charles Locker, at Cumberland, for 60,000 bushels at the rate of 6000 bushels per month, if required. Both parties have their Mills full of cement, ready to deliver, and the delivery along the line has commenced this week, and no doubt is entertained that the cement will be ready as fast as required.

From the preceding, the board will have learned the engagements entered into, and the arrangements made for the execution of the work required for the completion of the canal. In the opinion of the trustees, they are based on prices and terms which ensure an adequate return for their services, to those with whom these engagements and arrangements are made. Familiar as the trustees are with similar engagements on some of the most important public works now in progress of construction, they know of none which rest on a more secure basis, few as good. But in another point of comparison the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, in reference to existing arrangements for that object, stands on a still firmer basis; and this, as the board is probably well aware, is the little room left for contingent expense, as well from the fact that all the work within the fifty miles now in progress of completion, which originally involved heavy contingencies, has been executed, as from the fact that such ample allowances have been made by the chief engineer for the very limited extent of contingencies, which attach to the unfinished work.

From a careful consideration of the whole subject with which