

swept away by the flood of April 1852, was not completed till October of that year, and the company were afterwards destitute of the means of engaging in any other expensive work.

It is satisfactory to state, that the works which were injured or destroyed by the flood of 1852, have been so completely repaired and improved as to secure them, in a great measure from similar accidents; and that, during the present year fewer breaches have occurred in the canal than in any other work of the same extent. The complete repair of dams N^o. four and five will make the canal navigable even in dry seasons, in the increased trade, and consequent additional waste of water, require feeders for the level near Cumberland, and these can then be provided, without difficulty, by means of the increasing revenue.

You will readily perceive, that the flood and subsequent breaches in 1852, seriously affected the revenue of the present year, and that the interruption of trade, last summer, will diminish the revenue of 1854. Every delay, in the transportation of coal and other articles, operates as a discouragement to owners of boats and to proprietors of coal mines, who do not like to make expensive arrangements for the use of a canal, while it is so frequently embarrassed in its operations. If dams number four and five had been in a proper condition, and the cholera had not prevailed in Cumberland, and along the line of the canal, the revenue for the present year would have considerably exceeded \$200,000; and would probably have doubled that amount if it had not been affected by the accidents of 1852.

I avail myself of the present opportunity to assure you of my best wishes for your welfare, and of the sincere respect with which I remain

Governor Lowe.

Your Obedt Servant
Wm. Mason.

Office of the Susquehanna and
Tide Water Canal Company
Baltimore. Dec. 22^d 1853.

John Randolph Quinn, Esq

Secretary of State, &c &c

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of 16th inst, asking, on behalf of the Governor, for a statement of the operations of these companies from the close of the last fiscal year to the first November next.