

Baltimore to Ellicott's Mills may be finished during the ensuing spring.

The Iron Rail Plates with their fixtures and a considerable portion of the other requisite materials are already procured or have been contracted for, and will, it is expected, be received in due time.

The stockholders were apprised, at their last annual meeting, of the intention of the Directors to possess themselves of accurate information, respecting the most approved modes of constructing Rail Roads with their various appendages, and that to effectuate this purpose in the most satisfactory manner, the Board had concluded to send a deputation of their Engineers, personally to inspect the Rail Roads of Great Britain. The Directors were not less aware of the importance of the enterprise committed to their management, than of the value of previous experience in the prosecution of a work of so great magnitude. In order therefore to ensure to the Company the practical benefits, of whatever knowledge and experience works of this kind in Great Britain might afford, they embraced the earliest opportunity to combine with the science already at their disposal, an acquaintance with the manipulations of workmen, and the means generally resorted to, in the various details of construction in that country.

To the accomplishment of this end Jonathan Knight, Civil Engineer, and Captain Wm. Gibbs McNeill, of the United States Topographical Engineers, with Lieut. George W. Whistler of United States army, embarked for England in November last, on the mission to which they had been deputed, and prior to their return to this country, they minutely examined every Rail Road of note or consequence in the United Kingdom.

They marked the rude execution of the original conception, and traced its gradual improvement, until it reached its present perfection, and although they have not yet been able, from the urgent nature of their present duties, to prepare a full treatise on the subject committed to their investigation, they have unhesitatingly expressed their "entire conviction, of the general efficacy of Rail Roads as a speedy, certain, and economical means of communication." In frequent contact with the distinguished Civil Engineers of Great Britain, and uniformly aided by them with unreserved politeness, they had free access to all the information on the subject possessed in England.