

Stone contracts, small parts delivered 6,00 00

4th. "What may be considered as the usual profit of contractors?"

This is a difficult question to answer, but to speak generally, it ranges between 5 and 15 per cent.

5th. "Is it contemplated to let the water of Rock creek and the water of the canal commingle in the basin at the mouth of Rock creek; and are precautions taken to avoid deposits of the water of Rock creek in that basin?"

In reply to this question, I beg leave to state to the committee, that by the proposed plan of the basin at Rock creek, the water of the creek will be raised 3 feet above common high tide in the Potomac. This, when done, will destroy the paper mill, and the water will flow to within a few inches of the top of the dam of this mill. It will then make a still pool of water up nearly to the flour mill, or as high as the present pond of the paper mill. It is believed that that the extension of dead water, and increasing its depth, will make the stream deposit soon after it falls into this dead water, and that some few years will elapse before the effect of deposits will be found to interfere with the usefulness of the basin.—

When that time arrives, it may and must be dredged out by machines, (or the water drawn down in its lowest state, and for which proper gates and discharges are to be made,) and the deposit taken out by wheel barrows and spades in part, and dredged in the other part.

If there are any other questions on which the committee desire information in my power to give, I shall do it with great pleasure.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. WRIGHT.

June 5, 1829.

*To the President and Directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal:*

Gentlemen: The Board of Engineers having been requested by you to give their opinion on the comparative advantages of terminating the canal at Rock creek, or at any other point about it, beg leave to remark:

Assuming what hardly any person will doubt, that a basin is necessary and useful, and we may say an almost indispensable appendage to a canal of such magnitude and importance as the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal; know-