

embankments, which were formed of earth brought from the nearest points of fast land.

These embankments were among the most expensive parts of the work, when taken in comparison with the amount of the original estimate of their cost. They are supposed to have sunk in many places from 60 to 100 feet, before they met a solid foundation on which to rest, after spreading out to an enormous base, and consuming vast quantities of earth in their construction, and by their pressure; causing large masses of peat, and other light substances, to rise in the bottom of the canal, which added largely to the quantity of excavation, and consequently to the cost of this part of the work.

At the village of St. George's, a lock of eight feet lift opens the communication with section No. 4, on the summit level. At this place a pivot bridge is thrown across the canal, for the accommodation of the Dover road.

On section No. 4, for about half a mile, a very heavy embankment was found necessary, to resist the pressure of a head of 10 feet water. Beyond that distance, and for the whole of the remaining part of the embankment of this level, sound policy dictated the expediency of permitting the water to flow on both sides of the towing-path, or embankment, for the purpose of relieving it from pressure and danger, and as a means of affording a large reservoir of water on this level. Experience has confirmed the opinion of the Board, in the necessity of protecting these embankments from the abrasion occasioned by waves, arising both from the passenger barges and from winds. A slight wall, of about 18 inches high, in the most exposed places, and small loose stones in other parts, have been found entirely effectual in preventing injury. A large portion of the embankment is now thus protected; and the whole, where it may be required, will soon be finished, at a small additional expense—when the towing-path, and the embankment through the entire canal, will be in excellent order, permanently secured, and, it is confidently believed, will require no further expenditure, as the sinking has long since entirely ceased. Section No. 4 was formed through the valley of St. George's creek, (one of the feeders of the upper level,) and extends from the village of St. George's, a distance of three miles and a quarter, to section No. 5, where the deep-cutting commences.