

peake and Ohio canal company, under date of the 27th July 1830, proposing, "that the two companies proceed immediately to such friendly adjustment of their differences at this place, (in Baltimore) as would enable them, harmoniously, to prosecute their plans and operations, as far as to Harpers' Ferry." and assuring the canal company "that this company was prepared, at once, to enter into an amicable arrangement for the confirmation of the location along this line" (a)

This letter of the 27th July, has of late, been construed by the canal company into an *unrestricted* and *unconditional* offer on the part of the rail road company, to adopt the location and report of the commissioners, and to proceed at once to the construction of the two works accordingly, without reference to the rest of the route, from Harpers' Ferry to Cumberland. It will be seen, that the letter, on the face of it, is nothing more than an invitation to a conference between the two companies, at which the terms and conditions of the adoption of the location and report, should be discussed and definitively settled. To prove that the letter was so understood by those to whom it was addressed, the board of directors of the canal company, in answer to the letter of the 27th July, passed a resolution, in meeting on the 31st, by which "It was resolved, That a committee of three members of the board be appointed, any two of whom might act, to negotiate with the president and directors of the Baltimore and Ohio rail road company, or such committee as they might appoint on the subject, and to ascertain and report to the board, the terms and conditions upon which the said company would agree to extend the works, respectively, to the point proposed." (a)

On the 25th of August following, the committee of the board of directors of the canal company, appointed under the above resolution, arrived in Baltimore, and in a conference with a committee of this company, informed the latter, "that it was its desire to receive a proposition from this company, to be communicated to the president and directors of the canal company, expressive of the conditions upon which this company might be disposed to adjust the differences with the canal company,"—and, in compliance with the desire so expressed, terms of mutual arrangement, dated August 26th,

(a) Appendix, No. 7.

(a) Proceedings of the Canal Company, of July 31, 1830.