

gard to the payment of interest on the inquisition, in the case of the heirs of Middlecauff, we can only repeat that we are ready and anxious to pay into court, or in any other way in which the money can be safely paid, and we shall consider it a very hard law if under these circumstances interest shall be demanded.

It has been the practice of the canal company, to pay Mr. Price for his services, by draft, but uniformly I believe he had presented his bill for services, and was advised to draw.

The board has authorized your draft to be paid, but direct me to request you to forward an account.

We have no communication from Mr. McCulloh on the subject to which you refer.

Very respectfully your obedient, &c.

J. P. INGLE, *Cl'k.*

[See appendix No. 7.]

IN MEETING, January 13th, 1836.

A letter was received from Joseph J. Merrick, on the subject of his business with the company. The clerk was directed to prepare an answer to the letter, to be submitted to the board at its next meeting.

The following is the letter by the clerk:

CANAL OFFICE, Jan. 16th, 1836.

J. J. MERRICK,

*Dear Sir*:—Your letter of the 30th has been received, and submitted to the consideration of the president and directors of this company, and by their direction I make you the following reply. You commence your letter by expressing a doubt whether the board can be aware of, or authorise such dealings with the counsel of the company as you have to complain of. In answer to this, I will only say that your letter and account were both presented to the board at its first meeting after they were severally received.

Your account in some of its particulars was deemed unreasonable, and charges were made for services in some cases, in which the commissioner had informed the board that he had effected compromises without the aid of counsel. Under these circumstances, your account as well as that of Mr. Price, were laid aside until the commissioner should come down, as he was then expected in a few days. The services having been rendered at the request of the commissioner, he only could inform the board of the nature and extent of those services, besides which, according to the course of business adopted by the board, all accounts created above from No. 5, are paid by the commissioner, (not at this place,) though in cases where no contracts exist, the accounts are first submitted to the board.

About the 23d of December your draft for the balance of this account was presented at this office—no order having been made for its acceptance, I was obliged to refuse acceptance, but re-