

that I made with Joseph J. Merrick was reduced to writing on the 7th day of March, 1836, and stipulated that he should be paid ten thousand dollars by the canal company in the event of success, and the like sum by the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company on the same contingency, and I now show to you that original writing, and also a copy of it, which was endorsed as such by Philip E. Thomas, and made by his son a long time since, when Joseph I. Merrick called on that gentleman and exhibited it to him, to obtain a settlement of his claim on the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, and which writing is in the following words :

*Copy of a letter from J. W. McCulloh to Joseph I. Merrick.*

ANNAPOLIS, 7th March, 1836.

JOSEPH I. MERRICK, Esq. Annapolis :

MY DEAR SIR :—

I am authorised by the president of the Baltimore and Ohio rail road company, and the president of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal company, to engage such assistants as I might deem useful and likely to obtain aid for those works respectively from the State of Maryland, to the extent of three millions of dollars each—to the road by subscription—to the canal by subscription or loan—and the company first named having authorised me to demand ten thousand dollars from it to recompense such assistants, and the latter company having confided the matter of recompense on its behalf to my own discretion, I now have the pleasure to say to you, that as I rely most implicitly upon *your guidance and exertions* for the success of their wishes, I place the sum of ten thousand dollars from *from each of said companies*, at your absolute and exclusive disposal, declining myself to participate or be interested in said recompense, in order that their wishes may the better succeed ; and it will afford me *great* pleasure, in directing the payment of the same to you or to your order, if, and so soon as the said aid shall have been extended to them respectively.

Upon the details of the grants I will confer with you, so that whatsoever is right may be done for each of them.

With great respect and regard, your friend,

JAMES W. McCULLOH.

The aforesaid copy of the preceding letter I obtained some days since from Philip E. Thomas, Esq. when the original being in the possession of Joseph I. Merrick, but either mislaid or overlooked at Hagerstown, was supposed by him to have been lost. But at my desire he sought for, and having found it, he forwarded it to me in a letter from himself, written on the 23d February, 1839, and of which the following is a copy :

*Letter from Joseph J. Merrick to James W. McCulloh.*

DEAR SIR :—

I reached home safely last night, and upon examining my se-