

APPENDIX.

[A.]

Copy of Ellwood Morris's Letter to President and Director's of Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company. December 3rd, 1840.

CHES. & O. CANAL. CHIEF ENGINEER OFFICE,
Cumberland, Md. Dec. 3rd, 1840.

To the President and Directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Co.

Gentlemen:—In 1839 the four Principal Assistant Engineers, then upon the line, were required to report on the 20th of November to the then chief engineer in detail, the results of a minute series of calculations made out by them and their assistants, showing the probable quantity of every species of work done, or to be done, to finish the canal. These detailed reports comprising the actual final quantities of the finished works, and containing all the data necessary for a general estimate of the probable cost of the canal from Dam No. 6 to Cumberland, *were actually made in 1839,* and from them as a basis, C. B. Fisk, Esq the then engineer in chief, engrossed his general estimate of December, 1839.

These original documents being *necessary data* upon which to base a present general estimate, revised by the experience of the past year, and having been made out *officially* by the four principal assistant engineers referred to, are unquestionably the property of the canal company, and ought to be on file in this office.

But having searched amongst all the papers left here by the late chief engineer, I have to report to you that these important documents are not to be found here; they may possibly be amongst your papers at Frederick, but if not there, must have been abstracted by some one.

The original data I have alluded to is indispensable to enable me to frame a satisfactory general estimate of the probable cost of the 50 miles of canal now under construction; for with the present force of engineers, it would require more time to restore that data than could now possibly be devoted to it.

I have further to state for your information, that all the drawings