

and plans of works, consisting of plans of the dam at Cumberland, aqueducts, locks, culverts, &c. of which there were formerly a great many in this office, which being the property of the canal company, ought now to be here, and which *were actually here* a few days previous to the 1st of October, are not now to be found, and have evidently been carried off. *The only drawing of any kind*, left here, being a survey of condemnation, since altered and therefore of no use. [B]

I have in progress a search for the papers in Dilley's case, but have not yet found them.

I am also preparing a duplicate register of the papers left in this office by the late chief engineer, connected with transactions upon the canal antecedent to the first of October 1840. One copy of which register I shall deposit in the canal office at Frederick, that the Directors may know precisely what papers were on file here upon the 1st of October, or rather what papers were left on file by the late chief engineer.

Of course as to any business or papers of a later date, they need only refer to me for information whenever any may be required.

The Book of Comparison of works, times of completion, cost, &c. made out some time since under the direction of the President, is not to be found in this office.

Whilst upon this subject, in order that the Board of Directors may be made acquainted with the petty embarrassments thrown in my way by the officers lately discharged by the Board, I will state that upon the Old-town division being merged in the Cumberland division, by the order of the Board of the 16th of September, I directed the assistant engineer at Cumberland, to apply to the assistant at Old-town, for possession of the books and papers belonging to the canal company and in his charge; this application was made upon the 29th of September, but possession of the documents was pertinaciously refused upon some frivolous grounds, until the 15th of November, when they were at last turned over, without any action either on my part or that of the Directors to remove the illegal objections to surrendering the aforesaid property of the canal company.

On account of the detention of these books and papers, no estimate has been made or could be made on sections Nos. 317 and 18, since that, for work done in August, and the Commissioner, at my instance, to avoid seriously involving the contractor, advanced \$13,000 without any estimate until this day, when I shall make out one. He also advanced \$2,000 to Watkins on account of section No. 320; the final estimate on which by the absence of the necessary papers has been delayed more than one month.

Finally during the six weeks that the notes of the line were withheld from us, we were of course unable to give the necessary