

the bonds authorised to be issued by an act passed at December session 1840, chapter 30; if said bonds remain unsold, what efforts have been made to realise the money for the same; what price or prices the company have been offered for them; what amount of the State bonds the company hold that are not hypothecated. Also, report what the debts and liabilities of the company are; also, to ascertain from the chief engineer, under oath, what amount of money will be required to complete the canal to Cumberland; what has been the amount of tolls collected during the last twelve months; what was the amount of income above the expenditures; what number of officers, agents and engineers, were in the employ of said company when the said president took charge of said company; what are the number of officers, agents and engineers, that are now in the employ of the said company; what extra allowance, if any, has been given, or permitted to be given, to those employed, and to whom given; and what are the salaries of the different officers.”

Immediately upon the receipt of the order, the distinct inquiries appertaining to matters immediately under charge of the clerk, chief engineer and treasurer, were respectively referred to them; and I have the honor, herewith, to communicate their several reports, which embrace answers to all the interrogatories contained in the order.

It will be perceived that the corps of engineers was increased in April last. This increase was made in order to enable the company to comply promptly with the 8th section of the act of 1841, chapter 30, which was passed on the 5th day of said month, so soon as the act should become operative, of which the company at that time entertained no doubt. A careful, complete and particular survey and estimate of the entire unfinished portion of the canal was ordered by the board on the 13th of April, immediately after coming into office, for the purpose of determining the amount necessary to complete the work. The result of the admeasurement and estimate will be seen in the answer of the chief engineer to the interrogatories referred to him, and contained in his report, which is herewith communicated. The company derived no aid whatever under the act of March session 1841, chapter 30. That act failed to take effect, in consequence of the inability of the coal and iron companies of Allegany to give to the Treasurer of the Western Shore satisfactory bonds and security for a compliance, on their part, with the conditions contained in the tenth and twelfth sections of said act. The companies in question had every disposition to comply with the conditions required of them, and tendered their corporate bonds, together with liens on their possessions, as the undersigned has been informed; but, as the encumbrances on them were large, the Treasurer did not conceive such security adequate, for reasons stated in his annual report to the Legislature, and therefore refused to accept them. The consequence was, that by the express provisions of the section referred to, the act of 1841, chapter 30, for