

REPAIRS OF MACHINERY.

The Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Rail Road Company (having 14 locomotives, 6 in regular service, 20 eight wheeled and 6 four wheeled passenger cars, and 23 eight wheeled and 40 four wheeled burden cars) have 2 foremen or superintendents of repairs, viz: 1 at Canton and 1 at Wilmington, each receiving \$65 per month, making per annum \$1,560, or at the of \$111.43 for each locomotive engine. Under these 2 foremen there are 14 men (mechanics and labourers) receiving from \$1 to \$1.75, or an average for the whole number of \$1.31 per day. This company have all of their best and most expensive work (requiring a better class of mechanics) done in the shops of individuals.

The Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail Road Company (having 14 locomotives, about 5 in constant service, 8 eight wheeled passenger cars, 41 eight and 132 four wheeled burden cars) have 1 foreman and 1 assistant foreman, the former receiving \$900, the latter \$600, making in all \$1,500 per annum, or at the rate of \$107.14 for each locomotive engine. They have under these foremen 24 men and 7 boys (or apprentices) the men receiving from 87½ cts. to \$1.75, or an average for the whole of \$1.30 per day. They also have a clerk at \$400 per annum to keep the time of these men and examine accounts connected with the depot of machinery, &c.

This company as well as the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Rail Road Company, had during the last year much of their best work done in the shops of individuals.

The Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company (having for both the Main Stem and Washington Branch Roads, 30 locomotives, from 15 to 16 in regular service, 30 eight wheeled passenger cars, 411 eight and 398 four wheeled burden cars) have in their shops at Mount Clare attending to the locomotive department, 1 foreman and 1 assistant foreman. The foreman receiving \$1,000, and the assistant \$720 per annum, or at the rate of \$57.33 for each locomotive. Under these foremen and in every branch of the department of machinery, they have 165 men and 5 boys (or apprentices) the men receiving from 80 cts. to \$2, or an average for the whole number (including master carpenter) at \$1.25 $\frac{4}{8}$ per day. About 50 of these men are engaged in the construction of passenger cars for the new road. There is also employed to keep the time of men, and to attend to receiving and weighing materials for the machine shop and foundry, 1 man at \$45 per month.

Upon examination of the above it will be perceived that the average rate of wages paid by the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company is from 4 to 5 per cent. below the average paid by either of the other companies named. Notwithstanding that the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company have all of their work of every description done in their own shops, in the best manner, and at the minimum cost.