

cars for the prompt transportation of all produce and merchandize that may be offered at the several depots. The number heretofore provided having proved inadequate, complaints were made of a want of the required facilities for transportation; and the board looking to the peremptory character of the Legislative enactment, believed it to be incumbent on them to take measures to prevent a continuance of this inconvenience. They therefore ordered twenty new cars to be constructed, of which seventeen have been completed and placed on the road, and the materials for the rest have been purchased. They are constructed on a plan invented and patented by Mr. J. Millholland the machinist of the company, which has thus far fully answered the expectations that were entertained of its advantages. Each of these cars has six wheels, weighs in all about 8,500 lbs. and will carry 12,000 lbs. to 14,000 lbs. of most descriptions of produce, the full load of an ordinary eight wheeled car. Their cost, averaging less than \$450 each is considerably below that of cars of equal quality with eight wheels. The actual expenditure incurred under this head of construction, prior to the 1st. October last was \$5,805 27. To carry passengers across the Columbia bridge, a car has also been constructed on the same plan the cost of which was \$896,85.

An unsettled case of a claim for damages growing out of the construction of the road through property adjoining the depot at Bolton, within the city of Baltimore has been finally adjudicated, and the damages awarded have been paid, amounting to \$2,158 00.

In the month of October last, another suit by one of the contractors for the construction of several sections of the road in Pennsylvania which had been long pending in York was finally settled. This is of course not chargeable to the year ending on the 30th September; but it may be properly mentioned here, because the amount paid was necessarily taken from the available balance in hand at the close of that year. The amount thus paid was \$2,800 00

During the year, a purchase was made from the patentees, of the right to use what appears to be the most effectual invention which has yet been made for preventing fires from the escape of sparks from the locomotives. Wood is yet, and for a long time is likely to be, the cheapest fuel on this route, but its use is not unattended with danger in Engines of ordinary construction. Several instances had occurred of woods and fences on the route as well as of cars in the trains being set on fire; and though no damage of any amount had been occasioned, there was reason to apprehend that the company might not continue to be so fortunate, as the road passes near to a number of buildings. As the engines run through the streets of York, the company were repeatedly urged by the authorities of that borough to take every precaution which could be suggested, to guard against all risk, and with this request it was felt to be but reasonable to comply, by obtaining the right to use a machine which on a full trial was found to answer the purpose. It has now been used for two years and a half, and since its adoption no instance has occurred of fire being communicated by sparks from