

cheapness and facility of transportation which it will afford will always secure to it the heavy trade.

Having very recently, in our special report of the 29th of April last, presented our views at length in regard to the provisions of the act passed at the last session of the Legislature of Maryland "to provide for the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal to Cumberland," we do not deem it necessary at this time to say any thing more on the subject, than that the opinions we then expressed remain unchanged, and have even been strengthened by our subsequent observation and enquiries. During the interval which has elapsed, we have been earnestly engaged in making all needful preparations for carrying the law into effect. Two parties of engineers have been placed on the unfinished portion of the line of the canal, to review and perfect the estimates and stake off the work for contract, and some steps have also been taken towards the procurement of the means for finishing the work; but the Board have as yet been unable to adopt any decisive course for the accomplishment of this object, by reason of the unexpected delay on the part of some of the incorporated companies of Allegany county in executing their guarantees. This delay, we are led to believe, has been occasioned by circumstances in no way affecting their settled purpose to contribute their proportion, and from no abatement of their anxious desire to see the canal completed as early as practicable. The causes which have heretofore prevented them from moving in the matter have now, however, as we are advised, been removed, and we have assurances that their formal action will be had by the middle of the present month. As soon as *their quota* is received, the Board will be able to submit to the Governor of Maryland and the State agents guarantees for the full amount required by the law, secured in a manner that cannot fail to command their approval. The individual guarantees we calculated upon have already been executed and delivered to this company; and the wealth and respectability of the parties whose names are attached to them not only furnish conclusive evidence of their strength, but also afford a cheering proof of the enlightened confidence which is entertained in the productiveness of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, after it shall have reached its destination.

As we have intimated on a former occasion, when the provisions of the law in regard to the guaranty are fulfilled, we will consider the greatest difficulty as having been surmounted. The completion of the canal to Cumberland will then be secured beyond all ordinary contingencies.

By order of the Board,

JAMES M. COALE,
President of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Co.