

commenced, amounted to \$52,437 63 and in May to \$70,570 whilst in April 1848, on the same basis of estimate, it was but \$18,398 73—and in May 1848, \$25,871 12. The work done, therefore, in the months of April and May of this year, as compared with the work done in the corresponding months of the year 1848, was somewhat more than in the proportion of two and three quarters, to one. The increase, also, from April to May, of this year shows, that the spirit of progress, is still onward. We trust that it may continue to advance, so as to ensure the completion of the work by the time stipulated, and that no adverse event will occur to retard it.

As we have above stated, Messrs. Davis, Hale and Allen, the agents and attorneys of the contractors, appear to be impressed with a strong conviction of their ability, to secure the fulfilment of the contract, by the given time. In the last communication received from them, under date of the 7th ult., which though of a general character will be read with interest, they say “we have the satisfaction of expressing a strong confidence, founded on a review of the present state of the work, and of the arrangement which has been made for its prosecution, that, unless prevented by some adverse event of unusual occurrence, *the Canal will be in readiness for introducing the water and the opening of navigation from Cumberland to Dam No. 6, by the first day of October next*” A copy of the communication is in the Appendix marked B.

According to a calculation of the Chief Engineer, it appears, that, if, after the 1st inst., the work goes on to completion, at the same rate of increase over the corresponding period of last year, as the last three months exhibit, over the corresponding months of said year, the Canal will not be finished until the 10th day of December; and that extraordinary exertions will be required, to complete it to Cumberland by the day named. As the gentlemen, above mentioned, have great experience in undertakings of this character, and are fully informed in regard to the amount of work yet to be done, to verify their statement above quoted, we are authorised to conclude, that they have made the necessary arrangements to augment the force employed, in a degree corresponding with the labor to be performed, by the time specified. The total working force, between Dam No. 6 and Cumberland, on the 25th ultimo, consisted of 1447 laborers and mechanics, and 594 horses, mules and oxen; and to facilitate the transportation of stone, from the quarries to the various structures of masonry, several Railroads having an aggregate length of about nine miles, have recently been constructed.

From the foregoing review, it will be perceived, that, unless retarded by the intervention of some unusual calamity, the early completion of the Canal may now be considered as reduced to a moral certainty. A new era will commence upon the opening of the navigation to Cumberland, and the course of the Company hitherto so beset with difficulties, will then be comparatively smooth