

Answer to query 4. The canal company have, below the point of rocks along the difficult passes to tide water, been at a heavy expense in blasting and removing large bodies of solid rock to attain the width they deem essential to the purposes for which they are constructing the canal, and the width of the canal cannot be so contracted as to afford a passage for the rail road with two tracks without materially impairing the utility of the canal by the impediments which would be placed in its navigation.

Answer to query 5. Without going into a calculation (which time to procure the accurate data prevents) a sufficiently accurate answer can be presented from the knowledge possessed of circumstances. The increased cost of effecting the object by a contraction of the canal at these passes would probably be from \$30 to 40,000 upon a supposition that the canal were finished. The object would certainly be accomplished by placing the canal further into the river, or in the position in which it was placed in the conjoint location, but the present advanced condition of the works would render this very costly, almost as much so as the original construction; certainly two thirds as much.

Answer to query 6. These points, are two points of rocks, Miller's narrows and the pass immediately below Harper's Ferry.

Answer to query 7. The aggregate length of the difficult passes is 21-10 miles. The length of the lower point of rocks 3,427 ft—that of the upper point of rocks 3,167 ft. that of Miller's narrows 3,500 ft—and that below Harper's ferry 1,100 ft.

Answer to query 8. I should consider that the construction of the rail road, at the difficult passes along the side of the canal, on its present location was impracticable, that is to say, within the limit of a cost which would be justified by the end, or in other words that the expense amounts to a prohibition.

Answer to query 9. The construction of the canal has advanced too near its completion to admit of any change in its position, unless by diminishing its breadth, without incurring a very heavy cost, probably \$75,000.