

extent in the general prosperity of the Country. The operations of the President of them, to wit: the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, and the Northern Central Rail Way Company have been characterized by a degree of success which encourages the most cheering anticipations.

From the twenty-monthly annual report of the President and Directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company we learn that this great work is steadily advancing with a celerity, which renders its complete success no longer a matter of conjecture; for notwithstanding the extraordinary casualties to which the Road has been subject during the last year, some of them involving the expenditure of heavy sums of money for repairs, and the expense and trouble occasioned by the interruption of its communication on the Ohio River, near Wheeling, with the Central Ohio Rail Road, and the unfortunate controversy with the people of Wheeling, with regard to that connection, the work has steadily and progressively progressed, under a management indicating a degree of sagacity and energy, entitling those concerned in the same to a high meed of public praise. The paramount importance of this stupendous enterprise, prosecuted under difficulties of great and disheartening magnitude, but which being subdued and overcome constitute it a wonderful and enduring monument of the perseverance and enterprise of our State, has been so ably portrayed, that I need not dwell upon it here. Suffice it to say, that in my opinion its importance has not been exaggerated; for when its capacities shall have fully developed, and its connections with the number of public works, that thread the vast country, which spreads itself west of the Ohio ~~is~~ fully completed, the wealth to be attracted to the left of Maryland, through these instrumentalities, cannot easily be over estimated. The question at issue between the Company and the City of Wheeling, with regard to the proposed connection with the Central Ohio Road, at Benwood on the Ohio, has, I am glad to learn, been disposed of, by the Supreme Court of the State of Virginia, by a decision in favor of the