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**THOMAS J. WARREN.**

## TERMS.

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## Miscellaneous.

### A Visit to the Cherokee Indians.

The Rev. Dr. Selon, the corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church South, has recently visited the Cherokees, and writes to the Nashville Advocate a long account of his visit. We make the following extract from the Dr.'s letter:

TALEQUAH, CHEROKEE NATION,  
November 5th, 1852.

In my last I noticed my safe arrival at this place. No one unacquainted with the country can conceive of the beautiful scene which breaks upon the eye of the traveller, as he ascends the mountain to the Illinois river. The surrounding mountains, the clear and beautiful river, and broad plains, are all spread out before him.

The Illinois river is a bold and rapid stream, pure and clear. I am told fish are found in it in large quantities—many resembling our mountain trout, perch and bass. Such as are fond of mud and live in muddy streams would not, I think, seek as a home this pure and clear water. After crossing the river we enter upon the plain on which Talequah is located. It is four miles from the river to the town. One of the first objects seen is the large and well finished Female Seminary, built by the nation; two miles farther is the Male Seminary, built and finished in the same manner.

These are truly indicative of the advancement of this nation in regard to education and religion. But of them more hereafter. We soon approach a most inviting looking mansion. From its tasteful architecture, the beautiful lawn, the large and tastefully laid out and arranged garden, you can hardly believe you are not approaching the suburbs of some one of our richest cities in the States. But, no, you are in an Indian territory, and this is the home and residence of the principal chief, John Ross, Esq., who has been so long known in weal and woe in the history of this people. A short distance beyond and another and equally inviting home is before you. Here the large yard, filled with the trees and shrubbery, the large garden, the beautiful orchard, the fine and noble mansion, all things bring to mind our homes and country far away.

This is the residence of my friend, Geo. M. Murrell, Esq., formerly of Lynchburg, Va. His amiable and worthy wife is the daughter of Lewis Ross, Esq., and niece of the principal chief. Here is my home, the word here receiving the fullest meaning. It is a home indeed for the weary traveler. And if it were not at once said I were clamish, I would say and where all the hospitality of a Virginia nobleman awaits you. Brother and sister Murrell are both devoted members of the church.

On Wednesday, the 3d instant, I preached in the Court House, by special invitation. The National Council, then in session, adjourned, and with the principal chief, were nearly all present. We had a large, intelligent, and very attentive congregation. My sermon was in English, in which language all the business of the Council is also carried on. The services were closed by the Rev. Mr. Downing, a native Cherokee Baptist preacher, and a member of the Council. The reader will remember I mentioned in my first letter, that I met with him and travelled with him on the boat from Louisville. Never shall the services of this day be blotted from my memory. May God grant that good may be the result in a long and blessed eternity.

Talequah is a beautiful place—about 300 inhabitants—a beautiful square inclosed, in which they have their council house. The court house is a good, substantial building of brick, two stories. There is a large brick hotel, several fine stores, with a well assorted and large stock of goods. A good newspaper has been printed here, called the Cherokee Advocate. On my way to the town we called at the Male Seminary, and were delighted to find in the superintendent, Rev. Mr. Vanhom, and his good wife, friends from our old home in Ohio. Truly this was to us a most happy meeting. Mr. Vanhom is a Baptist minister, and is assisted by my young friend, Mr. Lyons, with whom I had the pleasure to form an acquaintance on my way to this country.

In this school they have about forty native Cherokee young men receiving instruction. The Greek and Latin languages, and all the branches of mathematics and a good English education are taught in the institution. The male and female school are national institutions. The tuition and boarding is free of charge to the pupils, and the students all board in the several buildings, having a good steward for each. This is truly a feature in the history of this people, worthy of imitation by the States around them, who have for so long a time been in possession of all the advantages of the gospel of Christ.

These academies depend for their supply for students upon the neighboring schools, which, like the common schools with us, are spread throughout their whole country. The principal chief, John Ross, Esq., has given his most devoted attention to the subject of education in the nation. To his zeal and perseverance are they mainly indebted for the origin, growth, and present prosperity of their schools. He is extremely anxious that the blessings of education shall be widely diffused and fully secured to his people. God grant success, full and complete, to his efforts. What patriotic Christian and philanthropic heart, will not join in the prayer?

For this purpose he is anxious to effect an

arrangement with the Government of the United States in which they shall take back a large body of land heretofore granted the nation, and with which they were charged \$500,000. He asks, and the nation through him, that it be taken back at the price the Government themselves fixed upon it at the time, and the interest which would naturally have accrued on that sum since. This money would be funded for the support of education forever in the nation. I think the demand a perfectly reasonable and fair one, and one to which our Government ought to accede. I most sincerely hope and believe they will do so.

Before I came on here, not then knowing I should do so, I procured a copy of the annual message of the chief, which I intended then to take home for publication. I now send it to you, and hope, in the same paper you publish this letter, you may find it convenient to publish the message, to show our people what is doing and passing here in these far ends of the earth, and the bold stand taken in favor of morals and religion by their principal men and the nation.

The National Council yesterday confirmed the nomination of the annual deputation to Washington, consisting of Dr. Ross, (son of Lewis Ross, Esq.) Judge Adair, and Judge Pegg. Dr. Ross is finely educated, a graduate of Princeton, and also of the Medical College in Philadelphia. I have had the pleasure of forming his acquaintance and that of his interesting wife. I spent, in company with the kind family where I stay, a most delightful evening with John Ross and family. His wife is a worthy member of our church; her sister, also, who resides with her. Then my friend Murrell, and the different members of Mr. Ross's family, the hours passed very pleasantly and happily. Near Talequah is also the mission of Dr. Worcester, of the Presbyterian Church. He has long been identified with the mission. They have at the establishment a press and a flourishing school. I regret that I did not feel able to comply with his kind invitation to preach for them, as also that of my friend, Rev. Mr. Vanhom. Indeed I wish my circumstances would permit me to remain much longer among and with this people, but I cannot.

**THE FALLING LEAF.**—It has been a fancy, born of our day-dreams, that for every leaf that falls, a human soul ascends; for every leaf that falls, a spirit glides from the dim past into the active present—and thickly as fall the decaying leaves, do forms of human mould drop into the soil.

We watch the yellow leaf, as it struggles with its downward tendency, essaying in vain to hang in mid air, shrinking from the cold resting place, and buoyed up with a momentary hope, as a stray breeze wafts it up again, only to descend more rapidly. It seems to wail, to shriek, as it settles nearer and nearer to the destined soil.—As it lies worn out and dead upon the chill earth, the spirit whispers: Another has gone to the tomb! Nature drops a leaf for every one who falls as the nun drops a bead for every sin she thinks.

As we stand beside the spent leaf, so stands weeping ones around the new-made grave. Ah! as they embalm their dead in tears and undying memories, so will we embalm thee, thou typhoid of human frailty. Thus between the leaves of the book of books the sickly leaf is laid as a memento mori. As I gaze on the skeleton form, I follow the decay of the one for whom it fell, and turn thoughtfully away, gaze up to the myriad of leaves, and ask, "which one shall fall for me?"

**POWER OF A MOTHER'S NAME.**—A correspondent thus describes a visit to the penitentiary at Philadelphia, and gives the following particulars of an interview between Mr. Scatterwood, the humane warden of the prison, and a young man who was about to enter on his imprisonment. Few will read it without deep emotion.

We passed the ante-room again, where we encountered a new comer, who had just reached the prison as we entered. He had been sent up for five years on a charge of embezzlement. He was attired in the latest style of fashion, and possessed of all the nonchalance and careless appearance of a genteel rowdy. We twirled his watch chain, looked particularly knowing at a couple of young ladies who chanced to be present, and seemed utterly indifferent about himself or the predicament he was placed in. The warden read his commitment and addressed him with—

'Charles, I am sorry to see thee here!  
'It can't be helped, old fellow!  
'What is thy age, Charles?  
'Twenty-three.  
'A Philadelphiaian?  
'Well, kinder, and kinder not!  
'There has disgraced thyself sadly!  
'Well, I ain't troubled, old stick!  
'Thee looks not like a rogue!  
'Matter of opinion!  
'There was well situated?  
'Yes, well enough!  
'In good employ?  
'Well, so so!  
'And thee has parents?  
'Yes!  
'Perhaps thee has a mother, Charles?  
The convict had been standing during this brief dialogue perfectly unconcerned and reckless, until the last interrogatory was put by the warden. Had a thunderbolt struck him he could not have fallen more suddenly than he did when the name of "mother" fell on his ears! He sank into a chair—a torrent of tears gushed from his eyes—the very fountains of his heart seemed to have burst on the instant! He recovered partially, and said imploringly to the warden—

'Don't you, sir, for God's sake, don't call her name in this dreadful place! Do what you may with me, but don't mention that name to me?'  
There were tears in other eyes beside the prisoner's, and an aching silence pervaded the group which surrounded the convict.

A man should never put a fence of words around his ideas, because many who would otherwise give him a fair hearing lack resolution to climb over such a rugged enclosure.

Why is the letter D. like a squalling brat?—Because it makes Ma mad.

## "Sowing Wild Oats."

We often hear the excesses of young men excused on the plea that they are "only sowing their wild oats;" as if a life of virtue must necessarily be preceded by a wild and vicious career. A good writer well remarks, that there is many a young man just entering the world, who would avoid those actions which give rise to the saying, if it were not for the veil which this very saying throws over their hideousness. But as he hears the lips of beauty apologetically muttering, "he is only sowing his wild oats," when some instance of vile profligacy is told, or some tale of innocence undermined, related, he begins to look upon such actions as the natural and excusable effects of ardent youth; he thinks that he, too, may be pardoned for scattering similar seeds on the highway of life; and is, perhaps, unconscious that the soil in which they will take the firmest and deepest root is his own mind. "Nemo repente fuit turpissimus"—no man becomes vicious on a sudden. The appetite for vice increases with what it feeds on; like the taste for olives, it may be nauseous at first, but by repetition we come to like it, and at length it becomes a fixed desire of the mind; we have sown a fixed desire of the mind; we must reap the fruits. We need not sow these wild oats, but once having so done, we must take the consequences.

An old French writer has said, that "disgust stands at the door of all bad places." It may be so; but it is to be feared that we too often put her behind the door as we enter; and it is only when we come out that we meet her face to face. We cover up her form with all kinds of disguises; we endeavor to cheat ourselves into the belief that disgust is not her real name, and that it is not the door of vice at which she stands sentinel; and as we pass her by, and enter, we console ourselves with the thought that we are only having a bit of a spree! that we are in for a lark! or at any rate, that we "must sow some of our wild oats." We are confident in ourselves, have great reliance on our own correct principles and right intentions, and delude ourselves in the belief that we are only gaining a little knowledge of the world, and showing ourselves to be youths of spirit. And a most miserable delusion this is—fostered and encouraged by the wretched fallacy we are illustrating; and by the pernicious habit of glossing over vile things with eulogistic names. We begin, perhaps, by sowing our seeds with a careful hand, scattering a few here, and a few there, with long intervals between them; we are not alarmed by any very great expenditure of seed; we hardly fancy that the correct principles on which we rely, are disturbed or shocked by their slight deviations from the strict rule of right; we still keep in the common routine of our duties, while we are imperceptibly being led into temptations that, by degrees, cause us to scatter the seeds more thickly, and with fewer intervals between them. And we go on "sowing the wild oats" until the tithes of our youth are past, and when a miserable and premature old age draws on, we find that the tillage is not yet complete; it is only when infirmities have rendered it impossible to pursue our former course, that the seed time is over; and the harvest comes upon us at once in the shape of pains and penalties grievous to bear. We forsake now the sowing until the power to sow is departed—we forsake not the sin until the six forsakes us.

How often do we hear it said, both by parents and friends, that it is right for a young man to know the world, and that he will avoid vice all the more for having tasted it, and found what it is like. Bad judges of human nature and of human appetites, are these! And let such parents beware lest the future growth from their maxim come home to them to torment them.—*N. Y. Organ.*

## Sabbath Keeping.

Hugh Miller, in his First Impressions of England, makes the following just and important remarks on the mode of Sabbath keeping recommended by our modern reformatory:

"Among the exciting varieties of the genus philanthropist—benevolent men bent on bettering the condition of the masses—there is a variety who would fain send out our working people to the country on the Sabbath, to become happy and innocent in smelling primroses, and stringing daisies on grass stalks. An excellent scheme theirs, if they but knew it, for sinking a people into ignorance and brutality, for filling a country with gloomy work-houses, and the work houses with unhappy paupers. 'Tis pity rather that the institution of the Sabbath in its economic bearings should not be better understood by the unitarian. The problem which it furnishes is not particularly difficult, if one could be made to understand, as a first step in the process, that it is really worth solving. The mere animal, that has to pass six days of the week in hard labor, benefits greatly by a seventh day of mere animal rest and enjoyment. The repose, according to its nature, proves of signal use to it, just because it is repose according to its nature. But man is not a mere animal; what is best for the ox and the ass, is not best for him; and in order to degrade him into a poor unintellectual slave, over whom tyranny in its caprice may prattle rough shod, it is but necessary to tie him down; to animalize him, during his six working days, to hard, engrossing labor, and to convert the seventh into a day of frivolous, unthinking relaxation. History speaks with much emphasis on the point. The old despotic Stuarts were tolerable adepts in the art of kingcraft, and knew well what they were doing, when they backed with their authority the Book of Sports. The many unthinking serfs, who early in the reign of Charles I., danced on Sabbath round the Maypole, were afterwards the ready tools of despotism, and fought that England might be enslaved. The Ironsides, who in the cause of civil and religious freedom, love their crown, were staunch Sabbatharians.

"In no history, however, is the value of the Sabbath more strikingly illustrated, than in that of the Scotch people, during the seventeenth, and the larger portion of the eighteenth centuries. Religious and the Sabbath were their sole instructors and this in times so little favorable to the cultivation of mind, so darkened by the persecution and stained with blood, that, in at least the earlier of these centuries, we derive our knowledge of the character and amount of pop-

ular intelligence, mainly from the death testimonies of our humble martyrs, here and there corroborated by the incidental evidence of writers, such as Burnet.

"In these addresses from prison and scaffold—the composition of men drafted by opposition almost at random from the general mass—we see how vigorously our Presbyterian people had learned to think, and how well to give their thinking expression. In the quieter times which followed the Revolution; the Scottish peasantry existed as at once the most provident and intellectual in Europe; and as a moral and instructed people, pressed outward beyond the narrow bounds of their country and rose into offices of trust and importance, in all the nations of the world. There were no societies for the diffusion of useful knowledge in those days. But the Sabbath was kept holy; it was a day of which every dissipating frivolity was excluded by a stern sense of duty. The popular mind, with weight imparted to it by the pulpit address of the day; expatiated on matters of grave import, of which the tendency was to concentrate and strengthen, not scatter and weaken the faculties; and cogitations of the week came to bear in consequence a Sabbath-day stamp of depth and solidity. The one in the seven struck the tone for the other six. Our modern apostles of popular instruction rear up no such men among the masses as were developed under the Sabbatarian system in Scotland. Their aptest pupils prove but the loquacious gabblers of the respective worship—shallow superficialists, that bear on the surface of their minds a thin diffusion of ill-remembered facts and crude theories, and scarcely, indeed, do we see them rising in the scale of society; they become Socialists by hundreds, and Chartists by thousands, and get no higher. The disseminator of more useful knowledge takes aim at the popular ignorance; but his inapt and scientific garb does not include in its calculations the parabolic course of man's spiritual nature; and so, aiming direct at the mark, he aims too low, and the charge falls short."

## Ruth and Naomi.

In consequence of a famine which happened in Canaan, Naomi and her husband, Elimelech, retired to the country of Moab. They took with them their two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, who married in that land two Moabitish young women, namely, Orpah and Ruth. They lived about ten years in the country of Moab, during which time Elimelech and his sons died, without leaving any children behind them. Naomi was left an aged and desolate widow. But not desolate in the spiritual sense of the word. Her Maker was her husband—the Lord of Hosts is his name. Blessed are those who know to whom God saith, "I have betrothed thee unto me in righteousness." "I have betrothed thee unto me forever."

Since her husband and her beloved sons were dead, Naomi felt a strong desire to return to Canaan, her native land. Her daughters-in-law expressed an earnest inclination to accompany her. This proves the powerful affection which reigned among them, and speaks loudly in favor of both of Naomi and the surviving widows of her departed sons. After they had accompanied their mother-in-law part of the way, she entreated them to return, each of them to their mother's house. Then she blessed them, and kissed them, and they lifted up their voice and wept? They are determined to accompany her. She continues reasoning with them, in strains of simple but melting eloquence. Again they lifted up their voice and wept. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clave unto her. Mark the difference betwixt the two: Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, that is, took leave of her, left her, and returned to her own home. Ruth clave to her with such affection, that nothing but death could separate her from the dear object of her regard. Orpah resembles the outward professor, who has a little love and respect for Christ's cause and kingdom and ordinances, but not a sufficient love to prevent him from leaving Christ in the day of difficulty and trial. When Orpah went back, Naomi tries to persuade Ruth to return. Nothing can persuade her. Oh, no! her love was too strong to listen for a moment to such persuasions. She puts an end to the debate, by giving utterance to the following remarkable expression: "And Ruth said, Entreat me not to leave thee, or return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.—Where thou diest will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me and more also, if I should be parted from thee and from Naomi." Then Naomi submitted, and under the protecting care of Heaven they proceeded onward in their journey, and at last arrived safely in Bethlehem.—Is not Ruth a blessed figure of the genuine believer, cleaving to Jesus?

God intended all women to be beautiful, just as much as he did morning-glories and roses; what he intended they should become they would, if they would only obey his laws, and cut indolence and corset strings and indulge in freedom and fresh air. For a girl to expect to be handsome with the action of her lungs depending upon the expansive nature of a cent's worth of tape, is as foolish as to look for tulips in a snow bank, or a grown oak tree in a flower pot.

When we hear men and women speak lightly of the industrious part of the community, we feel just like tracing back their genealogy. We have done so in several instances and you would be surprised at what we have learned. The most aristocratic man of our acquaintance is the grand son of a filler; the proudest woman the daughter of a tailor. It betrays a lack of good sense to condemn or to look with contempt on any virtuous person, however poor he or she may be. The wise and good respect and love goodness wherever it may be found, in all its beauty and effulgence.

Whenever an Irish attorney loses a suit, he considers the matter a personal insult, and challenges the whole jury to mortal combat. In the vicinity of Cork, when a decision is appealed from, it is not from one court to another, but from the court house to the pistol gallery.

It is curious with what moral fortitude men can bear with the misfortunes of others.

## General News.

### The South Carolina Railroad.

The published report of the President and Directors of the South Carolina Railroad, for the year 1852, shows an increase of \$125,000 over the receipts of 1851; and of \$225,000 over those of 1850. Accompanying the report is the following statement, showing net profit for the year 1852:

Income from Freight	\$780,041 82
Do. Passage	204,787 60
Do. Mails	41,843 04
Do. Minor sources	8,462 96-1,225,198 42
Applied as follows:—	
In ordinary current expenses, 39 per cent.	435,092 47
Extraordinary current expenses	14,876 26- 453,968 73
	671,229 69

Other expenses chargeable to income previous to declaring Dividends, viz:—

Interest on sterling bonds	109,347 71
Interest General	45,878 65
Exchange	574 30
Property damaged and lost	9,118 90
Stock mutilated and killed	1,038 92- 165,958 48

Net Income, 605,271 21  
Deduct first Dividend, 135,800 00  
second Do. 135,800 00- 271,600 00  
Balance, \$333,671 21

This balance has been appropriated to the property account, consisting of the following items, to wit:—

Purchase of Negroes	\$ 45,484 34
Charleston New Work shops	7,430 80
Building to avoid In. Fine	31,545 79
Charleston Depot	3,501 10
Rebuilding Camden Branch	2,152 70
Property in materials and Machinery	2,947 38- 4,8618 55
Property in Cars	54,002 00
Property in Locomotives	92,477 55
Lands	665 58- 193 13
Re-rolling old Iron	7,229 71
Crossing Savannah River	34,521 91-316,296 74
Additional Track	

Total 457,544 76  
The large investments for the last year, have increased the indebtedness of the company by \$194,300 55, which increase is more than covered by the purchase of negroes and the advantages of crossing the Savannah, even if the additional track, new work shops, and the work around the incline plane at Aiken be entirely left out. The following extracts from the reports of the President and the Superintendents, will be found to contain a sufficient account of the condition of the road and outfit.

**EXTRACT FROM MR. CONNER'S REPORT.**  
In July last a satisfactory arrangement was made with the City Council of Augusta, for the Company's throwing a Railroad Bridge across the Savannah river, and locating two depots within the city of Augusta—one to be located between Bay and Reynolds street, to be approached by steam, and to be used for city business only. The other to be located within one square of the Georgia Railroad depot and to be used exclusively for through business, or business to and from points beyond Augusta.

This depot to be connected with the other, a distance of about three quarters of a mile, with the main track across the Bridge, by a Railroad track, to be worked by horse or mule power. The price agreed to be paid for these privileges was \$150,000; of which the Georgia Railroad paid \$30,000, and the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad Company have assumed to pay \$25,000; and we have assurances that the Memphis and Charleston Railroad Company will assume a further amount.

Contracts were immediately made, upon the consummation of this arrangement, for the construction of our Bridge, Depots, &c., and it was then hoped and expected that our trains would have been delivering and receiving goods and produce in Augusta before this time; but the freshets, which compelled us to withdraw our piling force and apply it to the repairs of the Augusta Bridge, and the high waters and bad weather that have prevailed since, will prevent our crossing before March. The whole cost for crossing the river, and locating in Augusta, will be about as follows:

Lands purchased for two depots	\$40,500
Contract for building two depots	13,500
For platforms, fences, &c., say	6,000
	\$60,000
Bridges and tracks, say	25,000
	\$81,000

to which may be added the Company's proportion of the right of way.

With a view to carrying into effect the recommendation of the Committee at the last meeting of the Stockholders, with regard to a double track to Branchville, fifty young negro fellows, practiced and experienced in railroad work, were purchased early in the summer, and a favorable contract was made about the same time with a highly respectable and responsible Iron Company, in Trenton, N.J., for re-rolling the old flange iron the Company had on hand, supposed to amount to about four thousand tons, into new rails, for this track, and a part of it has already been returned to us in its new form.

In consequence, however, of the necessary application of this force to repairs that they have been placed on the line of road. The greater part of them are now at work near the Thirty-mile Post, grading or preparing to grade, for the new track, but with this force alone, and the means now at our disposal, the process of construction must necessarily be slow—far more so, it is submitted, than is consistent with the interest of the Company, or requirements of the community, looking to the rapidly extending Railroad connections with us in every direction, and with a view to prepare in due time for the great increase of business, which it is now so apparent must follow. The Board of Directors have concurred, with great unanimity, in the propriety of the Company's proceeding to build a double track from Charleston to Branchville, with the least delay in which it can be done consistently with a due regard to a proper economy; and I am directed to submit to the stockholders, at their present meeting, the expediency of authorizing the Board to raise the necessary funds for the purpose, by the issue of bonds or new stock, as

may appear most advantageous. The cost of the work, including the iron, and graded in the manner contemplated by Mr. Lytboe, will be about one million and fifty thousand dollars. The subject is respectfully but earnestly commended to the immediate consideration of the stockholders.

Within the last six months of the year, the Company has, as all are aware, sustained heavy losses in its business, both from the prevalence of fever in Charleston, and from the effects of the great freshets of 20th, and 30th August, which swept away a part of the Augusta bridge, the whole of the Congaree bridge, besides destroying the Wateree bridge, the effect of which was for a time to cut off all communication entirely between Charleston and the interior, and to greatly obstruct it for some time after the communication was partially opened. Yet it will be seen that, notwithstanding all these adverse circumstances, the business of the Road shows an increase over the previous year, in both freights and passage, and amounting in the aggregate to \$124,480 44.

What the increase would have been under favorable, or even under ordinary circumstances, may be readily inferred. The repairs of damages by the freshets having been done almost exclusively by our own hands, and the Road force, (for we could get no others that would undergo the risk and exposure of working at that season in the water and swamps) the cost in money paid out does not appear large. In fact, what all is done and complete, and the Road stands where it did before the freshets, the outlay will not exceed \$300,000.

### EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF MR. LYTBOE.

The quality of the Hamburg division of the Road is quite good, not having suffered in the same proportion from the late freshets, as other parts of the Road, no damage of consequence being sustained, except in the immediate vicinity of Hamburg. The Columbia division, I regret to say, is not so good, the freshets on that branch being unprecedented, as regards damage, in the whole history of the Road. In the immediate vicinity of the Congaree river, between the Trestle work and Camden Junction, nine different breaches were made in the embankment from one to four hundred feet long, besides sweeping away the bridges across the river. These different breaches have, as yet, only been partially repaired, in consequence of the unfavorable state of the weather, together with the great scarcity of laborers, and the enormous high price to be paid for the same. We are progressing, however, with the repairs as rapidly as circumstances will admit, and expect during the present year to put this Road in the best possible order. A temporary bridge was erected with the least delay possible across the Congaree river, until a permanent bridge could be constructed and put up. This will be done in the course of three months at farthest, as the superstructure for the same is to a great extent completed, and only waiting the opportunity for driving piles and putting up the same.

The Camden division of Road also had its difficulties to contend with at the Wateree River, from the abutment on the north side being undermined, and the piles driven to support the draw washed out. This has only been partially repaired, it will be necessary to build a new bridge sooner or later across this stream as well as to rebuild or embank the whole four miles of swamp. The Road generally on this division, from the river to Camden requires a general and thorough repair. The casualties to which we have been subjected have prevented our doing anything of consequence with building the double track; as recommended by the Stockholders at their last annual meeting. Indeed such have been our difficulties that had it not been we had recourse to the Company's own hands, my opinion is it would have scarcely been possible, for us to keep the Roads, in working order.

The new road for avoiding the inclined plane at Aiken was completed, according to the original design in May last and has been working successfully and satisfactorily since that time. No accident or damage, or injury of any kind has happened during all the rains and freshets that have occurred, except the slide or caving in of a mass of earth at the Aiken cut, and a force of hands is now employed widening the cut, and filling up with the earth the plane below.

The new road to avoid the plane has in all respects, worked up to all our expectations. We are rapidly progressing with the Railroad Bridge across the Savannah River at Augusta. Four of the eight spans are now up, and the last pier of piles is now being driven and the Bridge will more than probably be completed before the first day of March next. The depots and tracks are also in a state of forwardness, and will be completed as soon as the bridge.—The cost of the bridge and tracks will not exceed \$25,000. The piling machine and force now employed on the last pier of the Augusta bridge will be transferred to the Congaree, to piling for the bridge there which will be done in full time for the structure now in progress of construction at the Company's yards in Charleston.

The survey of the line for the double track to Branchville, with a profile and estimate of the same, will be laid before you in time for the meeting of the Stockholders. My object will be, if practicable, and I am confident it is, to predicate the double track upon a descending grade all the way from Branchville to Charleston; so that an engine may bring from Branchville nearly if not quite, what two of the same power will bring to Branchville. The cost of such a track so graded will be, according to a rough estimate I have made one million and fifty thousand dollars (\$1,050,000) including iron and all contingencies.

### EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF MR. PETCH.

Of the 38 engines contained in the Report for 31st, Dec. 1851, two second class passenger and two third class freight engines have been condemned, leaving in the service on 31st Dec. 1852, only 34 of the 38 engines mentioned in the Report for 1851 as fit for service. To which have been added during the past year, five passenger and seven freight engines, making total number of engines in the service of the Company on the 31st Dec. 1852, forty-