

*Extracts from Report of the Vice President, submitted at meeting of Stockholders, in June, 1848.*

Relative to the erection for the Engine, &c. I regret to say, that my worst fears have been more than realized. Instead of a substantial, independent house, I found a mass of almost dry stone, 80 feet long and 50 high, held together by lime which had been frozen when laid, large outside timbers, and the girders of the engine supporting it; which, upon the first vibration of the machinery upon it, would, I have not the slightest doubt, be shattered to pieces. The loading for the foundation plates, which ought to have been founded on the solid rock, has been laid upon timber, with large openings, and built in the most careless and insecure manner, and would require to be entirely rebuilt. The pit of the Fly-wheel, after being twice rebuilt, is still at least six inches too narrow, the arms of the wheel pressing against the stone, rendering it impossible for it to revolve, and the drum wheel for driving the Crusher Belt, cannot, from the unevenness of the walls, possibly work without cutting the wall, a most dangerous experiment, in its present tottering state. The house is badly planned, wretchedly built, and a perfect disgrace to Mr. Vivian, who superintended the erection."

"After discussing the possibility of repairing the house, and giving the reasons against it, the Report continues:—

"From these facts, I at once concluded to accept Mr. Vivian's resignation, fully convinced that he had undertaken a duty which he was altogether incapable of performing.

"I could not have conceived it possible, that any man who professed to know anything about building or machinery, should have constructed a building in so unwieldy a manner, and so inapplicable to the work to be performed.

"Nor could he give me any satisfactory answer to my enquiries, why he had paid no attention to the numerous remonstrances of Mr. Campbell, against the manner in which he was conducting the work, further, than that he would not allow his judgment to be questioned, considering himself as Manager, and responsible to the Board only."

*Extract of 4th Annual Report of the M. M. Co., February, 1850.*

"Nor would it be any avail to dwell on the disappointment to which the circumstances referred to gave rise, entailing as they did, not only the loss of the large sum of money expended in the erection of a Building utterly unfit for the purpose for which it was