

considered that the Contractor, who has undertaken to execute the contract, understands its most important provisions in a manner so diametrically opposite to the understanding of the Chief Engineer, who prepared the contract and specifications; and whose duty it is to see that they are properly executed, it is not at all strange that frequent and serious collisions should have occurred between these parties, during the progress of the work. In fact, I think it may be regarded as almost wonderful that, under such a state of things, any material progress has hitherto been made in the work.

If the present discussion of these subjects, and their reference to an enlightened and disinterested Engineer, shall bring about a union of sentiment and purpose that shall result in a united effort to secure the speedy and proper completion of the Road, the sincere friends of the enterprise will certainly have no cause to regret that the discussion has taken place; unless it shall unfortunately be found to have *blasted* the enterprise, in the eyes of capitalists, to such an extent, that they will refuse to invest their money in the securities of the Company; and thus secure the final abandonment of the road, to the fullest extent that has heretofore been predicted by its most open and violent enemies.

Respectfully submitted,

SILAS SEYMOUR,
Engineer in Chief.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS.