two millions of dollars was proposed as an ample guess at the probable amount. It will be borne in mind that Mr. Leackle's resolution to provide for a survey of the line of an Eastern Shore rail road was passed on the 11th of February 1836. — About the time his rail road charter passed and nearly two months before the present charter was finally enacted. Under this resolution, Commissioners were appointed by the Executive, & required to employ an Engineer of skill & experience to locate the road & estimate its cost. Mr. Leackle altho' he moved this resolution, & sought it, was not appointed a commissioner but he volunteered to go to Washington and ask the President for a U. S. Engineer, & upon having one detailed for the purpose, to make a conditional contract with him to go at once upon duty, and the contract was to be sanctioned by the Commissioners. Col. Kearney was detailed, and on inquiring into the ordinary pay, Mr. Leackle contract with him was considered a fair one & confirmed, & the Col. requested to prosecute the survey forthwith. The first thing done by the Colo. was in company with a portion of the commissioners, to ride down the whole line & make a reconnoissance of the proposed line of the road. As soon as he passed over it his practiced and experienced eye, enabled him to pronounce at once that the road could be built for a sum little over half the amount provided for in the charter. This reconnoissance was made & this opinion confidently expressed by the Colo. in the interval between the winter & the summer sessions of the Legislature in 1836. In consequence of this information from high authority. Which stands unimpeachable as I shall by & bye abundantly shew.

(It was)