

"The Railroad" Newspaper Article, December 20, 1849

"The Railroad"

Although the Railroad from Rock Island to Peoria is not exactly "being made," in the language of the address contained in our paper this week, yet that it will be commenced, and that right speedily, is no longer a matter of doubt or uncertainty.

The N.W. Adv. says, "The Commissioners of Henry county have taken twenty-five thousand dollars worth of stock in the Rock Island and Lasalle Railroad." To relieve themselves of responsibility they intend submitting it to a vote of the citizens of the county for ratification, on the 15th prox. "There is no doubt," says the Advertiser, "but that the people of Henry will sustain the liberality of their Commissioners." As about one-half of the requisite quantity of stock is now subscribed, we doubt not the Commissioners of other counties interested will follow the precedent established by that of Henry.

Small amounts of stock are still being taken in this county. The farmers of Hickory Grove held a meeting last week and subscribed a thousand dollars and those of another neighborhood in the southern part of the county subscribed thirteen hundred dollars. Two citizens of Cedar county, at the Convention last week, subscribed one thousand dollars and took with them papers which, they assured us would be returned with additional subscriptions of nine or ten thousand dollars.

As the progress of this Road must facilitate the construction of the Iowa Central Railroad, and attach double importance to that Road completed, the citizens of Muscatine and Iowa City should hold meetings and assist in urging forward this great public enterprise. It is highly desirable that the work be commenced immediately, as the people both upon the north and the south of us are using their best exertions to tap the Mississippi at other points, and should they succeed in effecting that object it might have an influence in determining the route of the eastern branch of the great National Railroad.