no less than politically. In other words, many politicians of the period, even corrupt politicians—and Clarkson was never accused of being corrupt—believed in democratic values which their mugwump critics rejected. And it is the ideals of the democratic politician, the ideals exemplified in Clarkson’s magnificent letter, that have endured down to our time.

M. & M. R.R.—The Work Resumed

The prospects for an early completion of the M. & M. Railroad to Brooklyn, in this county, are at present very flattering.—Work has been resumed on the road, and track-laying will be commenced in a few days. The stockholders of the road had a meeting at Davenport last week, and elected officers, who, it is understood, are in favor of pushing the road ahead to Brooklyn. A number of the stockholders came by special train to Marengo, the present terminus of the road, to view matters as they really stand. They found the road nearly all graded to Brooklyn, lying idle, and being sadly damaged by rains, &c., and came to the wise conclusion that that portion of the road might as well be paying something as not, and consequently determined that the road should at least be completed to Brooklyn, and the cars run to that point. Our Brooklyn friends expect to hear the snorting of the “iron horse” in their suburbs in six or eight weeks. We trust they may not be disappointed.—Montezuma Republican. (Quoted in Davenport Daily Gazette, June 17, 1861).