

## WASHINGTON, D. C.

*March 6th, 1837.*

The Undersigned had the honor to report on the 26th of July 1836, the result of their examinations "to ascertain whether and at what expense with due supply of water, a canal be practicable from the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to the city of Baltimore, by the valleys of the Monocacy and Patapsco, or by a route diverging from the said Chesapeake and Ohio Canal at the mouth of Seneca river exclusively, within the limits of the State;" and to express the decided opinion that a due supply of water could not be had, and that, therefore, a canal was impracticable on either of the routes above designated, or, in general terms; on any route exclusively, within the limits of Maryland, "across or through" Parr Spring ridge, or around the southeastern termination thereof.

They did not make that report unadvisedly, without proper information, or without satisfactory examinations of the proposed routes by which it was supposed that formidable barriers might be passed. In forming their opinion they were greatly assisted by previous surveys made under the authority of the State of Maryland and of the United States, which very much abridged the field duties, that would otherwise have required much time and money for their performance.

The surveys by Briggs were sufficiently extensive to convey an accurate idea of the general topography of the country, and were every thing that could be desired preparatory to examinations in relation to the supply of water.

In his report, Briggs expresses the opinion that a sufficiency of water can be had on the Linganore route and on