

that now, when the officer is approaching, and will in the course of the next year, enter into that region of country where minerals of great value have always been known to exist, his discoveries cannot fail to be paramount to what they have hitherto been, and that the suggestions he may have occasion to make in reference to their economical uses, must prove extremely valuable to the people and tend greatly to advance the agricultural and manufacturing interests of this State.

In reference to the diligence with which the officer has been conducting his operations, they believe that it has been entirely consistent with that minuteness of detail necessary to the successful accomplishment of the scheme as originally contemplated.

As regards the cost of the geological part of the survey, after obtaining all information within reach as to the appropriations made to similar works in other States, they find that it has been much less than elsewhere. The State of New York allows no less than \$4,850 upon each of its four districts, embracing only a little more extent than our territory, and yet we find Gov. Marcy, in a message to the Legislature, stating that "many scientific gentlemen were not only willing but desirous to engage in the survey, as it was an enterprize to be executed under the patronage of the State: yet they all, he adds, considered that the highest compensation which he felt authorized to allow them, was inadequate to the services to be rendered." In several states the survey is confined to a mere geological examination of territory; but the Maryland plan combines with this an agricultural and topographical survey. Time must necessarily be allowed to a subject that exacts patient investigation and severe labor, bodily and mental. In Pennsylvania, where they have, it is presumed, as nice a perception of any *cui bono* argument, as we, a principal Geologist, with a salary of \$2000, is not deemed equal to such a task. Two assistants, under him, divide the labor and receive salaries commensurate with their services. The State of Virginia, long since appropriated \$100,000 for a topographical survey.

Upon a review of the whole matter, your committee believe that the salary of \$2000, fixed by law to the Geologist, out of which he has to defray all his personal expenses for travelling, living, &c. is as little as can be offered to an officer entrusted with such arduous and responsible duties. They think, moreover, that the act passed at December session, 1834, for the completion of the new map and geological survey of the State, has almost the force of a contract under the authority of which the officers have already obtained a co-operation with the General Government, for considerations that have not yet been fulfilled, and can never be, should the act be repealed.

When your committee bring to mind, that this enterprize in which Maryland was the first to embark, has gained for her much credit from the enlightened at home and abroad; that she is looked to as having been the pioneer in a system so well calculated to develop the wealth and resources of our country, and that her example has been followed