

With regard to the expenses of the special surveys, I have only to remark, that I have uniformly been as economical as possible. The extent of those surveys, in which upwards of 175 miles have been measured, levelled and reported upon, (without including about 250 miles in length, upon which signals have been erected and observations made for the triangulation,) is perhaps greater than some persons are aware of, and justifies fully, it is believed, all the expense that has been incurred in regard to them. The other surveys, however, which have been made, at different times, and especially within the last two years, at the expense of the State, for various purposes, and *not* by the Topographical Engineer, will afford a direct and favorable means of comparison upon this point. The expenditures for at least one or more of those works have been, I believe, stated to the House of Delegates at its present session, by the Treasurer for the Western Shore.

I will only avail myself further of this opportunity to announce its being not unlikely that the works of the survey, which have been as stated in the executive message, suspended during the past year, may be resumed before the meeting of the next General Assembly in connection with the United States coast survey.

Allow me to offer you, sir, in conclusion, the assurances of my high consideration, very respectfully,

J. H. ALEXANDER,  
*Topographical Engineer.*