

bound together a number of the secondary points in a more comprehensive accuracy. But as far as yet done, they shew in a striking manner the egregious errors of all existing charts and maps; and serve to furnish *bases* for local and detailed surveys in the districts mentioned, of an exactitude far exceeding what could be had by other means, and fully commensurate with any designed or desirable application of such surveys.

4th. Hitherto the proper occasion has not presented itself for using those bases in the subordinate measurements requisite for the land features of the Map; nor is it essential to make advances in this way during the next summer. Therefore, in view of all the circumstances, I have to report to your Excellency that the existing funds will be sufficient for the contemplated operations of the year 1842.

5th. But in regard to these contemplated operations, there is a provision of another character, so highly necessary and now so deficient, that I must use the occasion to urge upon your Excellency the importance of supplying the defect: I mean, some public enactment to secure the permanency of our signals against the mischief of idle persons, to which they are continually exposed, and from which the interest and progress of the survey has already been made to suffer. As these signals are always upon elevated ground and frequently remote from dwellings, the facility for interfering with them unobserved is considerable; and as the interference is generally not malicious; i. e. with full consciousness of the evil to result, a possible legal remedy by proceeding against the parties as for trespass or for theft (for it generally amounts to that, the signals themselves being abstracted) appears inapplicable either from a plea of jurisdiction, on the ground that the State has never authorised any one to appear in this behalf, as a plaintiff or by being disproportionately severe, and so not adjudged or leading to the concealment, by persons cognizant, of the parties committing the act. The confusion and delay necessarily arising from such acts are, however, too manifest to require that I should dwell longer on it.

6th. Another provision for the acceleration of the work also requires to be brought to your Excellency's notice. I mean the mode of ascertaining the compensation to be paid to the owners themselves of the ground on which the signal is placed, or other grounds intervening between two signals. At the period of the passage of the law authorising the survey, there were reasons which appeared sufficient to prevent my urging the introduction of this topic, although I desired it to have been introduced. At present these reasons have ceased to exist.

7th. Your Excellency is aware that as the eminences suitable for triangle points are also frequently more or less wooded, there may exist occasions for requiring the removal of a tree or trees obstructing the line of sight to another point. Very often the tree so designated is the one of all others in the vicinity which the owner has most reason to prize. In such case the use of the