

letter, and of this reply, in the hope that their action may soon enable me to give a more definite answer to your inquiry, than it is now in my power to give.

I am, very respectfully, and truly yours,

ISAAC D. JONES,
Of the Maryland Commission.

WASHINGTON, March 5, 1872.

HON. ISAAC D. JONES,
Commissioner, &c.,

DEAR SIR:—On the 28th of November, 1870, an application was received from the Governor of Virginia, addressed to the Superintendent of the U. S. Coast Survey, "for the assignment of a competent corps of surveyors to the duty of ascertaining and locating the true boundary lines between the State of Virginia and the States of Maryland, North Carolina and Tennessee;" and on the 14th of January, 1871, a somewhat similar application was received from the Governor of Maryland, so far as regards the boundary line on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake. These applications were favorably answered under the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury, with the proviso "that all proper expenses incurred, should be paid by the States interested." As the assistants or surveyors who may be employed on the duty are permanently in the service of the Coast Survey, their salaries and the providing of instruments will not be included in the expenses referred to. The class of surveys which may be required by the Joint Commission for the settlement and permanent marking of the boundary line, between Maryland and Virginia, on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake, having been assigned to the division of which I am in charge, I would respectfully request to be informed whether the Joint Commission proposes to call for any surveys during the coming spring or summer; and if so, at what date it is expected that the work should commence. This information is needed to give the surveyor, who will be especially detailed for the field duty, sufficient time to close up his operations at the South, and to make arrangements for the surveys or marking, which may be decided on as necessary or advisable by the Commission.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

RICHARD D. CUTTS,
Assistant U. S. Coast Survey.

Which were severally read and referred to the Joint Select Committee on that subject.