

On the other hand, it is possible that rocks are not the only cause of regional disturbances. But as soon as we find a [magnetic] ridge line, the first rational thing to do is to look for a geological fact which may be connected with it. And if we knew all that is hidden from us, it is probable that we should often find a connection." Another interesting outcome was the indication that marked disturbances in magnetism will most likely be found on *ocean* areas as well as on land areas.

An elaborate magnetic survey is just about to be executed for the North German provinces at a total cost of about \$12,000. Five years are to be allowed for its completion, and work is to be begun this summer (1897) under Professor Eschenhagen's direction.

Enough has been given to prove that by undertaking similar work in this country we are simply keeping in touch with a general movement that is manifesting itself most actively in the civilized world to-day. We are at last beginning to recognize that in our eager and impatient endeavor to unravel the mysteries of the celestial regions we have shamefully neglected the *terrestrial* mysteries, of which we have manifestations every moment. The science of our earth is still in its infancy, and the astronomer has been made painfully aware of the fact that more attention must be given to the study of the physical history of the planet we inhabit. There is every evidence that a reaction in scientific thought in this regard has set in that is bound to grow, and it simply behooves us to put ourselves in line with this onward movement.

In conclusion, let us briefly refer to the history of magnetics in this country, so that we may form some opinion as to the place to be ascribed in the development of magnetic surveys in this country to the magnetic survey of Maryland.

The earliest attempt at a *detailed state* magnetic survey appears to have been made by Professor Alexander Dallas Bache in 1840-43, just before he was called to the superintendency of the Coast and Geodetic Survey. He called his survey a "Magnetic Survey of