

tration of them, including those comprehended in the order of the Senate, and which are necessary to a final location of the road, are yet in an incomplete state; and consequently the Board have not made, and are not prepared to make a decision upon this important subject. The abstraction from the office therefore, of any portion of the maps and other drawings prepared in reference to the surveys, might obviously be attended with injurious embarrassment and delay.

Of all the duties imposed upon the Board of Directors, that of finally determining the route of the road throughout the line, as well from the inherent intricacy of the subject, as the number and variety of local interests involved in it, becomes at once the most arduous and delicate.

Without a comparison with others, and a knowledge of the whole, the merits of any particular survey cannot be properly estimated, nor is it possible to determine upon a particular part, without reference to other portions of the line, by which it would be more or less influenced. There is ground also to apprehend, that the premature publicity and discussions of partial surveys, or of particular divisions only of a long line, might unduly excite local interests and jealousies, prejudicial to a judicious arrangement of all the parts.

These considerations, and others to which I abstain from a more particular allusion, have made it improper, hitherto, independently of their incomplete condition, to submit the surveys and results for public use; and indeed might have warranted the Board in respectfully suggesting to the Senate, the inexpediency of bringing into public discussion through the medium of an order of their body, those matters which the interests of the State as a stockholder, might require should be treated in the spirit of caution.

In the present instance however, rather than appear unmindful of the respect due to, and entertained for the Senate of Maryland, or to afford even a pretence for surmises by others prejudicial to the company, the Board have directed me to comply with the request contained in the order.

In conformity with this direction of the Board, I have the honor to transmit a letter from the Engineer of construction and location, together with a map and profiles prepared for the purpose, and containing the requisite information.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

LOUIS McLANE, Prest.

The clerk of the House of Delegates delivered the following messages:

By the House of Delegates,

March 10, 1838.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

We have received your message returning us the bill entitled "an act supplementary to an act entitled, an act to appoint commissioners