

ANNAPOLIS, January 24, 1837.

*His Excellency the Governor, and the
Honorable Council of Maryland.*

The Commissioners appointed under resolution No. 15, of December session 1835, to make a reconnoissance and survey, and to intimate the cost of the Eastern Shore rail road, beg leave to state, that as early as practicable after the notification of their appointment, they organized their board and proceeded to the execution of the trust confided to their care.

The first important measure which seemed to engage their attention, was the selection of a competent Engineer, and failing in other inquiries, application was made to the President of the United States for this purpose, and Lieut. Col. Kearney, of the Topographical corps (an officer of much experience and high distinction) was detailed for this service. Immediately after the appointment of Col. Kearney as engineer in chief, the Commissioners proceeded to a general examination of the proposed route, and adjacent country, beginning as directed by the resolution, at a point on the Wilmington and Susquehanna rail road in Cecil county, and extending their view to the southern extremity of Somerset county, at the little Annamessix connecting itself with the Tangier Sound, on the Chesapeake bay, with a divergent line through Worcester county, to the State line of Virginia. Having thus examined the entire line of the contemplated road, the Engineer was directed to cause to be made the necessary survey and estimates. The length and number of these surveys have caused considerable delay, and it was not until the 16th of November last, that the Engineer was enabled to make, even a partial report, that report was brought out preparatory to opening the books, and will be found to contain the length of the line and estimated