

avorable character than the others of which they had spoken. Since then they have traced a line of levels along it and across the ridge that has sustained, as they knew it must, the position then taken. The undersigned have not ran lines of compass and level around the basin of this summit, as was originally contemplated, because, as has been already remarked, they deemed it an useless and unnecessary expense, to do what was intended for the satisfaction of those who differed from them in opinion, when it was known that another engineer was in the field charged with the same business.

The minute examinations of the ridge were commenced at the most northern point near Westminster; thence the design was to have carried them southerly along its whole extent—but they were immediately suspended upon the commencement of operations by the engineer of the city of Baltimore.

For the present the undersigned will content themselves with repeating their former opinion, which was founded upon a personal examination of the country—that the drainage of the Seneca basin is not of sufficient extent, but on the contrary is entirely inadequate to the wants of a practicable canal across Parr's ridge; for while the basin is rather smaller with the same length of tunnel, the summit would probably be longer than the other routes.

5th. In the report of the undersigned of 26th July 1836, the remark is made that, "other routes than across the ridge have been suggested for a cross cut canal exclusively within the limits of Maryland. It has been thought for instance that the waters of the Potomac might be brought down on a high level from the mouth of the Monocacy, up the Seneca valley, thence nearly parallel to Parr's ridge along its southwestern base and around its termination at Vannsville upon a route that would pass no summit, but admit of a continuous descent to Baltimore. It has also been suggested to take in like manner the Potomac water from the Great Falls, from the Little Falls, or perhaps from some other point higher up, and to pass along exclusively within the limits of Maryland without a summit. All these plans we pronounce entirely impracticable; we have proved them to be so by actual examination with the level."

As to the first plan of taking the Potomac water from