

frequently and shamefully abused. A law requiring every voter within a specified time, anterior to the election day, to have his name registered by a proper officer or tribunal to be appointed for that purpose, appears to us to be the proper and effectual remedy; and we take occasion to suggest its adoption, or some other measure which will be equally effective, to the consideration of the Legislature.

The Topographical and Geological Surveys instituted by the State have progressed with all the expedition that the nature of those important works would allow; and the high character and professional ability of the gentlemen to whom their execution have been intrusted, assure their completion as early as may be consistent with the nature and extent of their necessary researches. The operations of the Topographical Engineer have been suspended during the past year. The accompanying letter marked K., will explain the reasons of the suspension, which we are sure will meet the approval of the Legislature as they have of the Executive.

The liberal and comprehensive scheme of developing our internal condition and resources embraced in the institution of these surveys, promises to afford the most useful and gratifying results, and deserves the continuing patronage of the Legislature. The means of obtaining a complete and accurate knowledge of the topography of the State, and the vast resources of Agricultural and Manufacturing Wealth that lie embeded in her bosom, have been too long suffered to remain without the reach of our citizens.

By reference to the reports which have been made from year to year, and the report of the Geologist, which we are advised will in a few weeks be transmitted to you in the usual printed form, it will be apparent that invaluable benefits have already resulted from their researches. In addition to the large advances made towards procuring a complete and accurate Map of the State, which is the peculiar duty of the Topographical Engineer, it must be a source of Legislative approval, that the examinations of the Geologist have resulted in the developement of Agricultural resources before unknown or unappreciated, in the discovery of valuable deposits of Marl and other means of enriching our soil and increasing its produce, and of mines of Iron and other Ores and valuable Clays, which, in the hands of manufacturing industry, may be made of invaluable product, and in the important additions which have been secured to the cause of scientific enquiry.

Heretofore the researches of the Geologist have been principally confined to the tide water districts. When, in fulfillment of the duties of his office, he shall have extended his operations to the other portions of the State, where our mineral wealth is mainly concealed, we have no doubt that the value of this branch of the Scientific survey will be duly and universally appreciated.

Complaints having been made of the extravagant cost of prosecuting the surveys, we have taken some pains to ascertain at what ex-