

BALTIMORE, March 8th 1837.

His Excellency

GOVERNOR VEAZEY:

Sir:—In the report which, some weeks since, I had the honor to lay before your Excellency, no mention was made of the arrangements proposed for the ensuing year. This omission was made purposely, inasmuch as it was my design to communicate to your Excellency in a less official, at all events in a less public manner, such facts and views as may engage your Excellency's approbation of the suggestions, which I beg leave now to make, in relation to the prosecution of the Trigonometrical survey.

I animadverted in the printed report upon the operation which the special surveys, as directed by the General Assembly, were having upon (I may be pardoned for thinking) the more important one which gave to the state her office of Engineer; because the result of that operation were a matter between the public and myself—inasmuch as it was not necessary for me to stir from my residence even in order to hear inquiries frequently made as to the causes of delay in the work to which I have given my earliest, best and as far as I was concerned, my every effort. I need not trouble your Excellency by any additional remarks as to the effects of a system which is in fact nothing else but obtaining piecemeal and at vastly increased expense both of time and money, information which it was the avowed object of the Trigonometrical survey to procure uniformly, systematically, economical and for every portion of the State alike.

Other circumstances, however, beyond both my control and that of the Legislature have intervened to retard the work. Your Excellency is aware of the mutual agreement entered into between the United States and the State of Maryland, which I represented; by which arrangement it is provided that the United States shall execute over the whole of Maryland the primitive Triangulation as it is termed; consisting in the determination and reduction to paper points which shall not be less than thirty miles asunder. From the inspection which your Excellency was kind enough to give to the instrument I exhibited before you, (the possession of which, not purchaseable except at great expense, we owe to the agreement before spoken of,) you will have some idea as to the trouble and time of this part of the survey; when you consider that at every one of those stations, and there will be about 120 or upwards in the whole State, an instrument of the same description will have to be placed and observations amounting to very nearly an entire day's work performed.