

Sir,

Journal Chamber
Annapolis Maryland 24th 1833

In the absence of His Excellency the Governor, from the part
of Government, I have received yours of the 24th Instant, requesting
to be furnished with an authenticated copy of an act passed by the last
General Assembly authorizing the President of the United States to locate
and reconstruct that part of the National Road between Cumberland
and Frostburgh and the north hand, you a copy of the said act from
the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, in whose office, our Laws are recorded.

Yours truly
J. G. Taylor
Washington.

Very respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
H. P. Wright

Sir,

State of Maryland
Executive Department
Annapolis May 21 1833.

In compliance with a Resolution of the General Assembly
of this State, application was made to you in January 1831 for the
services of one or more ^{civil} Engineers from the United States Army to make
a Survey of the Sea Coast between the Chesapeake and Delaware
Bays, with a view to the opening of a safe and direct navigation through
the Sounds which run parallel with the said Coast, by the construction
of such canals as may be required for the purpose; and on the 28th of
April ensuing, the Secretary of War advised the Governor of this State
that the chief Engineer had been instructed to assign a civil Engineer,
with an assistant, to the duty of making said survey, but that the expenses
except the salaries of the Engineers, would have to be defrayed by the State
of Maryland.

The Legislature, not then having made provision for the
payment of any expenses attending said Survey, the services of the United
States Engineer could not be accepted upon the conditions prescribed
by the Secretary of War. The attention of the States of Delaware and
Virginia as well as Maryland, having been turned to this object,
Commissions or Engineers, have been appointed, by each State, to join
in making the contemplated Survey. Its importance in a National
point of view, as well as to the State more immediately interested, is such
that it is deemed proper and highly desirable to have the aid of the
science, skill and experience of paid Engineers of the United States, in
making said Survey; and the Legislature of this State, at its recent
Session, having made the necessary provision, on its part, for the payment
of expenses attending the Survey, I am now authorized to accept the
services of such Engineer, upon the conditions formerly offered, and respectfully
request that you will be pleased, as early as convenient, to have a
competent Engineer detached from the United States Army to aid in
making said Survey.

Andrew Jackson Esq
President of the
U. S. A. Washington

I have the honor to be most
respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
James Thomas