

The Topographical Engineer during the year 1836 was repeatedly engaged in the conduct of special surveys which had been authorized by distinct resolutions of the Legislature, so that he was still further retarded in the prosecution of his work upon the state map. Among the maps prepared and published by the Engineer in his annual report, however, is a detailed map of the Frostburg region and another of northern Frederick county as the basis for a proposed railroad from Frederick to the Pennsylvania line. A topographical map of Calvert county with part of Anne Arundel, upon which the State Geologist entered much geological information, was also published in the same report.

Impressed with the impossibility of prosecuting the topographical survey under existing conditions, Mr. Alexander, in a letter to the Governor, recommended a postponement of the work upon the new map of Maryland until it could be undertaken in connection with the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey in accordance with the plan of cooperation which had been earlier effected with Professor Hassler. Mr. Alexander still continued, however, to prepare special maps for the reports of the State Geologist between 1837 and 1840, and also compiled an admirable topographical map of the state upon the scale of 1:200000, with 50-foot contour lines to the east, and 100-foot contour lines to the west of the Monocacy river. This map was never published in full size, but two manuscript copies, beautifully executed by Alexander himself, were prepared. One of these was deposited in Annapolis, where the author of this chapter has up to the present time sought in vain for it; the other is in the possession of Mr. J. J. Alexander of Baltimore, the son of the Topographical Engineer. The boundaries of the geological formations were indicated upon these maps as well as the localities for the following useful mineral products, viz.: "iron, chrome, copper ores; alum clay and pyrite; potter's clay; soapstone and stone paint; granite, syenite and gneiss; marble, hydraulic limestone; slate, sandstone, coal." The date of this map is not stated, but it was probably completed shortly prior to 1840. This map of Alexander's was so much the best extant during the Civil War that soon after the 19th of April, 1861, General Scott ordered