most seasons) and having from the nature of my employment while acting in the capacity of superintendant, acquired some ~~some~~ skill in engineering as well as a pretty accurate knowledge, of the geography of the mountainous country, the character of its streams &c. &c. I presume I shall be enabled to compile a work, that will not only be interesting as a book of mere reference, but one that will furnish some new and valuable information.

I am at this time in possession of, or have at my command all the materials for carrying my projection into effect; with the exception of a survey of the Youghagany from the cropping of the U. S. roads to the mouth of deep creek, (its connecting branch with the Potomac) thence to the heads of the latter stream. Without this I am aware the work would be lame and incomplete. I have therefore determined, to make this, ~~and~~ and such other surveys as will be completely and fully illustrative of the subject in hand. Supposing you might possibly have an inclination to see this section of the country, my principal object in writing to you (and which indeed is the only thing I can offer as an apology for the freedom) is to invite your attendance during the time I shall be engaged making the survey. I shall commence it about the 18th of this month and shall be engaged a couple of weeks.

Mr Stewart our member of Congress, and perhaps, some gentlemen from Cumberland (Md) will accompany me, and as the subject of our investigation is in your district, and presuming you are an advocate for the projected connection of the waters of the Chesapeake with the Ohio; and that you will be friendly to the views of such as are endeavouring to aid the cause of internal improvement. I have thought you might also feel [illegible] portion to attend. Your presence I can assure you sir, would afford me peculiar pleasure, and would no doubt add considerably to the credit of my undertaking: Besides it might be the means of affording you some information that would the better enable you in your official capacity, to advocate and effectuate, a grand and desirable object.

In the event of your attendance being ~~inconvenient~~, I shall be happy to hear from you on this subject, and beg you will without any hesitancy, give me your views & opinion respecting my projected undertaking.

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