

lency and the Mayor of Annapolis, and the authorities of the government and myself, it was expressly stated as the reason why I should not land, that my troops could not pass the railroad, because the company had taken up the rails, and they were private property. It is difficult to see how it could be, that if my troops could not pass over the railroad one way, the members of the Legislature could pass the other way. I have taken possession for the purpose of preventing the carrying out of the threats of the mob, as officially represented to me by the Master of Transportation of this city, "that if my troops passed over the railroad, the railroad should be destroyed."

If the government of the State had taken possession of the railroad in any emergency, I should have long waited before I entered upon it. But, as I had the honor to inform your Excellency in regard to insurrection against the laws of Maryland, I am here armed to maintain those laws, if your Excellency desires, and the peace of the United States, against all disorderly persons whatever. I am endeavoring to save and not to destroy; to obtain means of transportation, so I can vacate the capital prior to the sitting of the Legislature, and not be under the painful necessity of occupying your beautiful city while the Legislature is in session.

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

BR. GEN. B. F. BUTLER.

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE,  
 MASS VOL. MILITIA,  
 Annapolis, Md., April 23, 1861. }

*To His Excellency Thos. H. Hicks,*

*Governor of the State of Maryland:*

I did myself the honor, in my communication of yesterday, wherein I asked permission to land the portion of the militia