

March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1839.

Sir,  
I have received your letter informing me of the determination of the Regents of the University, "to pursue their rights against the individual Trustees who will not yield to the decision of the Court of Appeals;" and requesting an expression of my own views, as to the course I mean to take in the question still pending between the Regents and Trustees.

I do not know what the question is, for since I came into office, I have had no time to enquire into the merits of the controversy, or to examine the decision of the Court of Appeals. So far as that decision has any reference to my official duties, I certainly consider myself bound by it; but if it has failed to settle any point in dispute, it is not for me as the nominal president of the board of Trustees to determine what course ought to be pursued by either party to the controversy. It is my intention to take no part in it, unless it can be shown that I am required to do so, in the discharge of my proper duties, as Governor of the State.

Very Respectfully  
Your obedient servant  
Wm Mason

Eng<sup>l</sup> Office of the New Maps of Maryland  
Baltimore 1 February 1839.

I beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the passage of a Resolution at the first session of the present Congress of the U. S. authorizing the Superintendent of the Weight and Measure Dept<sup>t</sup> to construct for the several States a series of standard measure of length, Weight, and Capacity in the same manner and of the same kind with those heretofore directed to be made for the Customs. A portion of said Standards (those of Weight) are already completed and ready for delivery.

As the resolution already indicated originated with a Representative of Maryland (now unfortunately deceased) and as our view of its origination was the applicability and usefulness of those Standards in several of the operations for the construction of a new-Map. I beg leave further to request of your Excellency an authorization to apply for and remove to the custody of this office such of those Standards as the