

[Comm. for Forfeited Estates, Annapolis to David M^cMechen] [1781]

The Board are informed that there is in the Possession of M^r Tho^s Franklin of Baltimore County a Library late the property of Rob^t Alexander we request the favor of you to apply to M^r F. for and take possession of same returning to this Board an Inventory thereof.

[Commissioners for Forfeited Estates to Thos. Williams Esq. [1781]
Sheriff of P. G. County]

We are informed that you have proceeded to make Sale of some negroes late the property of the Rev^d M^r Boucher, we apprehend that you are wrong in this procedure, in as much as the General Assembly had antecedent to the sale confiscated and appropriated them to the use of the State and directed us as Commissioners in what manner to dispose of them. The laws also direct that no taxes shall be levied on public property, We are of opinion that if you attempt to receive the money, or to give any title for those negroes you will do it in your own wrong For as the laws declare us to be in possession of those negroes we shall certainly insist on the disposal of them

We are &c

[Office for the preservation and Sale of Forfeited Estates to
Maj. To. Bruff.] [1781]

We request the favour of you to sell the negroes late the property of S^r Robert Eden left in your care by us, the Law directs that they shall be set up at and not sold under their last valuation by Assessment.

Inclosed you have an Advertisement of the terms, you'll be pleas'd to affix a date allowing two or three weeks notice and distribute several Copys into the most Public places in Talbot and the two neighbouring Counties, you will be pleas'd to transmit to us by the first safe opportunity the sums paid down and also the Bonds drawing from the whole one p C^t for your trouble, which we think too little, tho' we are not authorized to give more.

We are directed by Law not to separate Husbands from their wives nor parents from their children in the Sale of British Property, which you will please to observe

P. S. The Exchange between Gold & silver & paper Currency is at this time & place 6½ p c^t