

in the administration of justice ; but I believe that such interference might be injurious to our peace and harmony, decidedly adverse to the interests of the Freedmen, and reflect discreditably upon our law-abiding people.

No doubt cases have occurred and will occur here and elsewhere, in which the rights of the Freedmen and of all men will be disregarded by the lawless, but such exceptional cases can and will readily be disposed of by the officers of the State according to law, and require no such extraordinary powers to be exerted by the Government of the United States as are here suggested.

Permit me also to add, that though living here all this time, moving about daily among hundreds of my fellow-citizens, I never even so much as heard until to-day, through your communication, of these cases which, it is supposed, have excited so much discussion and feeling.

I conclude by expressing the opinion that there exists no necessity whatever for any interposition on the part of the Government of the United States in these cases ; nor for the interposition of your Excellency—that they will be disposed of, I believe, in the quiet, due execution of the law, justly, efficiently and with proper regard for the rights of all.

With great respect, I am

Your obedient servant,

A. RANDALL,

Att'y Gen'l of Md.

STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY,
Annapolis, Md., December 21, 1866.

To His Excellency, THOMAS SWANN,

Governor of Maryland, Annapolis :

SIR :—In reply to your communication of yesterday's date, requesting me to state the facts relative to certain negroes sentenced to be sold for crime in this County, I have the honor to submit the following :

The first sentence of this character since the passage of the law by Congress, commonly called the "Civil Rights Bill," was by the Hon. Wm. H. Tuck, in which case the prisoner's Counsel argued that the provisions of the Act of Assembly of