

A gentleman was appointed to return with your Commissioner, and institute inquiries into the nature and extent of any injuries incurred by citizens of Maryland.

On their return to Maryland, they made a legal investigation of the seizure of the boat and grain of C. F. Wenner, which, he is happy to state, resulted in the satisfactory adjustment of the claim of Mr. Wenner, whose receipt upon his petition to the Executive, accompanies this report. The case of Mr. Wenner was the only one of which the undersigned was apprised at the time, and he believes it is the only instance of the interruption of the Canal.

On his return to Maryland, your Commissioner received from the Clerk of the Honorable House of Delegates the memorial of certain citizens of Montgomery county, and the letter of Mr. Biggs, of Washington county, with instructions to obtain accurate information in regard to the subjects thereof, and report the same to that Honorable Body, with the result of any negotiations relating thereto with the authorities of Virginia.

Your Commissioner visited at once Montgomery county, and some of the petitioners, and ascertained that the apprehensions of molestation from the troops of Virginia were entirely groundless. He was informed by Mr. Darby, one of the petitioners, a respectable citizen, and owner of a large and important mill on Seneca Creek, near the Canal, that the petition had grown out of what they then considered well founded apprehensions of his neighbors, of injury to his mill property, in the continued security and operation of which they were all interested, arising from the fact of his supplying the Government with flour; but that he was now satisfied their apprehensions had been groundless, and his trade on the Canal, and his other branches of business, had not been threatened or molested by the troops of Virginia.

The undersigned made as thorough an examination of the condition of things on the Maryland mountain, opposite Harper's Ferry, as the pressure of circumstances, and the almost inaccessible nature of its approaches, would admit of.

Its top was occupied by four or five hundred Virginia troops, who had cut down four or five acres of the indifferent timber which clothes its summit, for the apparent purpose of constructing huts for their temporary shelter; and about the same space of land had been burnt over by the accidental contact of the dried leaves with their camp fires, as your Commissioner supposes.

That as soon as he had investigated all the complaints he returned to Richmond, and reached there on Wednesday, the 29th ultimo, when the authorities were engaged with the pressing duties arising from their reception of the President and Government of the Confederate States of America. That, on the even-