

ing of the 30th, he had a short interview with Governor Letcher, and brought to his notice the object of his mission, and the specific acts of aggression complained of, in the entrance upon our soil of the troops of Virginia.

The Governor was understood to say that he would apply to the commanding officer at Harper's Ferry for information on the subject, and be prepared to reply more fully when the report of that officer was received; but he begged me to convey to your Honorable Body the distinct and earnest assurance, that if, at any time, the military forces of Virginia should trespass or temporarily occupy the soil of Maryland, it could only be justified by the pressing exigency of a military necessity, in defence and protection of her own soil from threatened or actual invasion, and certainly with no hostile intent towards the citizens of the State of Maryland, and that any and all damages to persons or property, consequent upon such occupation, should be fully and liberally compensated for.

Your Commissioner left with the Governor, at his request, a copy of the resolutions aforesaid, and the letter of Mr. Biggs, and regrets that the distracted state of the country, and the uncertainty of communication, compelled him to leave Richmond on Saturday morning, in order to be present at the assembling of your Honorable Body, and before he had received a definitive reply from the Governor of Virginia. That, as soon as he receives any further communication from him, he will make a further report to your Honorable Body.

Your Commissioner may be permitted to remark, that the people of the western counties of the State, and adjacent to the Canal, are much interested in preserving from molestation the trade along its line of navigation, and he has been particularly solicitous in removing all obstacles which threatened it. While the bed of the Canal is on the soil of Maryland, the dams which furnish it with water are dependant on the protection of the Virginia authorities; and while they have, as yet, manifested no disposition to withdraw their guardianship, and leave them liable to the depredations of malignant persons, your Commissioner has deemed it his duty to guard against, as far as possible, such a contingency, and he indulges in a well founded confidence that, the material interests of this great State work will not be seriously jeopardized.

O. HORSEY.

*To His Excellency, the Governor of Maryland:*

The undersigned respectfully represents that he is a citizen of Frederick county, in the State of Maryland, resident at Berlin, on the line of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and engaged in