

ties thereof, for the protection of the citizens of Maryland from injury in person and property by any unadvised acts of the military forces of said State, and to obtain compensation for any injuries already done, begs leave to report to your honorable body, that, in the accomplishment of his mission, he proceeded at once to Richmond, and received from Governor Letcher the most distinct disavowal of the acts of the military in molesting our citizens, and seizing and holding their property, accompanied by expressions of deep regret for any such acts of lawlessness, and of earnest desire to maintain the most harmonious relation with the citizens of our State. He expressed a readiness to make the most liberal compensation for any injuries committed. A gentleman was appointed to return with your commissioner to the border and institute enquiries as to the nature and extent of any damages incurred by citizens of Maryland. The undersigned returned to Maryland, and with the person alluded to, made a legal investigation of the seizing of the boat of Mr. C. T. Wenner, which he is happy to state eventuated in the satisfactory adjustment of the claim of Mr. Wenner, whose receipt upon this petition to the Executive accompanies this report.

The case of Mr. Wenner was the only one of which the undersigned was apprized at the time, and he believes it is the only one of the interruption of the navigation of the canal.

On his return to Maryland, the undersigned received from the Clerk of your honorable body 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 your honorable body, with the result of any negotiation relating thereto with the authorities of Virginia.

He visited at once Montgomery county, and some of the signers of the petitions, and ascertained that the apprehensions of molestation from the troops of Virginia were entirely groundless. He was informed by Mr. Darby, a respectable citizen, and owner of a large and important mill on Seneca creek, and near the canal, that the petition had grown out of the apprehension of his neighbors—the petitioners—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 at Washington 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.