

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 dependent on the protection of the Virginia authorities, and while they have 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 the business of forwarding grain and other produce over said canal to the terminus thereof at Georgetown, in the District of Columbia—that for the prosecution of said business, he owns two canal boats, to each of which are attached three hands for the management of the boats and four mules, and has a warehouse for the storage of grain purchased by him or left with him on commission at Berlin—that on the 22d day of April instant, he had a boat loaded with grain on its way to Georgetown, and he left his home and went to Georgetown for the purpose of disposing of the cargo and inquiring into prices of grain at that market, in order to determine on the time when he should ship the grain then in his warehouse—that being advised by his Commission Merchant at Georgetown that prices were high and rising, he on the same day of his arrival, (Tuesday the 23d inst.,) started for home, and riding all night on horseback, reached his home, at a distance of fifty-five miles from Georgetown, about sunrise on Wednesday morning, the 24th instant—that he immediately caused his boat, then at Berlin, to be loaded with the grain then in his warehouse, using great exertions to have it loaded as quickly as possible, in order to avoid probable detention on account of the water which was being let out of certain portions of the canal for repairs—and that about 12 o'clock, M., on Wednesday, the 24th day of April, his said boat was loaded, and he was about to dispatch her to Georgetown, when a detachment of military rode up to him and demanded that said boat and cargo should be delivered up to them—that the officer in command of said squad or