

[COPY.]

LONDON, *January 3rd*, 1842.

J. S. GITTINGS, Esq.,

*Commissioner of Loans for the State of Maryland,
Baltimore:*

SIR:—We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your two letters of 27th November and 4th December last, from which we learned with the deepest regret, that you had been unable to procure the funds necessary for the payment of the interest due here and in Baltimore on the debt of the State of Maryland, and that consequently you could not complete your remittances to us for that purpose, which as yet have only amounted to about £9,000; whilst, as you are aware, the dividend paid here on 1st July last was £30,329 11 2.

At this distance, and with an imperfect information of all the circumstances of the case, it is perhaps impossible for us fully to appreciate all the difficulties which you had to surmount in order to attain the desired object, but they must indeed have been of an extraordinary character, when, notwithstanding the importance of maintaining the good faith of the State and the intrinsic value of the security which you were authorised to offer for a temporary loan, you have as yet been unable to procure the requisite amount of funds. We cannot doubt that every possible endeavor was made, sir, on your part to avoid the catastrophe which might result from such a failure in the regularity of the State finances, because we are sure that your most zealous efforts must have been dictated not only by a sense of duty and of anxiety for the reputation of the State, but also by a conviction that in the strict maintenance of its credit and good faith, were involved the completion and future success of its public works, the prosperity of Maryland and the consequent welfare of all its citizens. And with the knowledge of that truth which must have been possessed by the monied institutions and private capitalists of Baltimore, we can only express our surprise, that when properly applied to for such a purpose, they should have refused their aid, particularly when it might have been offered without risk, as you were authorised and prepared to pledge, not only the future proceeds of the State tax, but a large amount of bank stock.

However mortifying to us and lamentable for Maryland has been this delay in the remittances, we felt, after the proceedings of the State Legislature during its last session, that that body never contemplated a breach of the good faith of the State, and that on the contrary it judged, that it had made ample provision for the dividends on its debt, and had placed its engagements beyond the risk of dishonor; and auguring for the future from the past, we feel as assured as you, sir, that it will have already taken prompt and efficacious measures for paying not only the January dividend, but for removing all apprehension of any similar demur, in meeting the interest for the future, both on its foreign and do-