

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, 28th Nov., 1859.

J. W. Garrett, Esq.,
President, &c.

From information in the possession of the Governor, of a contemplated attempt to rescue the prisoners condemned to death at Charlestown, he has deemed it proper to issue a proclamation taking possession of the Winchester and Potomac Railroad, on the first, second and third days of December next, and it will be held under impressment, with a guard, for the use and occupation of Virginia troops alone, and no transportation will be permitted other than for them. Under these circumstances, he requests me to suggest to you, as President of the Balt. & Ohio Railroad Company, the propriety of stopping all trains on your road on the first and second of December, other than for carrying the United States mail. Passengers coming through Virginia on those days will not be permitted to pass. Major General Taliaferro, in command at Charlestown, has orders to this effect.

GEO. W. MUMFORD,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Harper's Ferry, Nov. 28th, 1859—1.25 P. M.

W. P. Smith:

Special and mail trains West arrived here on time. Eight cars of soldiers, with our Ferry engine, have gone to Charlestown.

Special train will leave here for Baltimore about 2.30 this P. M.

A. DIFFEY.

Baltimore, November 28, 1859.

J. G. Heist, Winchester, Va.

Every passenger car we have, is fully occupied, and we do not intend to let them be used for taking any persons to Charlestown or Harper's Ferry, except the military of Virginia, whom we will cheerfully accommodate between the Ferry and Charlestown, with your company's permission as heretofore.

I will pass the Ferry on our mail west to-morrow, and would be glad to confer with you if convenient.

W. P. SMITH.