

Colo. [unclear] was commissioned Sheriff of [unclear] and  
he had removed to, and resided in, Caroline, at the time of  
his death in January, 1814. I do not know how  
and the Executive were apprised of his change of residence.  
Constitution appears to me too plain for even doubt upon this  
point.

Will, you please, as speedily as possible, let me  
know whether or not the information I have received is  
correct or not.

Yours truly,  
John M. Stephens  
Clerk of [unclear] County  
Centerville

With great respect,  
Yours Obedient Servant  
W. H. Gilchrist

Council Chamber  
Annapolis, September 22<sup>d</sup> 1814

Dear Sir,

I have received information from Colo. Stephens,  
Clerk of [unclear] County, of the death of the Sheriff of that  
County, and I have understood (not from Colo. Throver)  
that the gentleman upon the return has left the County and  
now resides in the City of Baltimore.

Colo. Stephens expresses a desire that a Sheriff  
shall be commissioned as soon as may be. According to my  
reading and construction of the Constitution, it is true that  
the gentleman upon the return has removed from the County,  
he has forfeited his right to the Commission, and, in that event,  
the appointment of the Sheriff devolves upon the Governor. I  
have, however, some knowledge that upon the death  
of a Sheriff of the same County, the gentleman upon the return  
as he has removed to, and resided in, Caroline, at the time of his  
death received the Commission, returned to [unclear] prior  
out the term, and he was commissioned by the Executive opposed  
to him in politics at a time of high party excitement in January,  
1814. I mention this that you may deliberately consider the matter  
and to guard you against relying upon my opinion: in which  
however, I am entirely clear. I ought to add that I do not  
know whether or not the Executive that commissioned the  
gentleman was ever apprised of his removal from the County.  
I shall write to Colo. T. immediately for information and to  
inform of Mr. [unclear] the gentleman upon the return.

His Excellency

Governor Thomas  
[unclear] County

Yours truly,  
W. H. Gilchrist