

Circular, In Council May 8<sup>th</sup> 1789

52 Sir, Having in obedience to an act of Assembly pass-  
ed at the last Session, appointed Col<sup>o</sup> William Richardson  
to attend the Sales of property taken in execution to satisfy  
the claims of the State, and to purchase the same for the  
use of the State, if a Sale cannot otherwise be effected, so  
as to secure a reasonable price for the property so taken,  
it becomes our further duty to take such measures as may  
ensure the full execution of the intention of the Legislature  
in this particular. As the duty of the said Agent will be  
interwoven with that of the several Sheriffs, and as the due  
execution of his trust will require the ready concurrence and  
assistance of the said Sheriffs, we have thought proper to direct  
by this our Circular letter, that you act so far in concert with  
the said Agent with regard to the time of serving the execu-  
-tions, and of proceeding to sale as will leave no room for  
the views of the State being defeated by any of the various  
means which have hitherto been practised, to the great dis-  
-grace and detriment of the government and its Citizens —  
As we are determined that this necessary method of compelling  
payment shall not fail through our fault, it follows that  
we shall bring to a strict account any public Officer or  
other person who in any manner shall act so as to contra-  
-dict the known intentions of the Law. — On the other hand  
those who manifest the contrary disposition cannot fail to  
acquire credit and advantage — We shall occasionally sug-  
-gest such arrangements as particular cases may require, etc.  
which we trust proper attention will be given —

Sheriffs of Caroline, Talbot  
Dorchester, Somerset and  
Worcester Counties.

We are Sir  
Yours  
J. E. Howard.