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To prevent the issue of small notes by individuals, private banks and corporations, the legislature has passed various laws, the execution of which depends upon the courts and the judges and law officers of the state: I only ask your opinion in relation to such acts of Assembly as may require the Executive to interfere.

I am very respectfully
Your obedient servant
Wm Mason

Cambridge Nov: 6th 1839—

His Excellency
The Governor of Maryland

On Friday last I received

your letter of the 29th October, in which you refer me to two acts of Assembly, the one passed at the session of 1836 chap: 239, and the other at the session of 1837 chap: 315 and propound the following questions

1.st Does the act of 1837 chap: 315 apply to any other suspension of specie payments by the Banks besides that which existed at the time of its passage?

2.nd Does the 5th section apply to the reissue of paper of a less denomination than five dollars after it has been returned to the Bank which first issued it?

3.rd Does the fifth section prohibit any Bank from paying out such paper of other Banks or savings Institutions?

4.th Does the 6th section authorize the Governor to direct the Attorney General to proceed against Savings Institutions as well as Banks which shall issue such paper for circulation?

5.th Has the Frederick County Bank under its charter as renewed by the act of 1836 chap: 239, or under any other act of Assembly, the right to issue one dollar bills or notes of any description of a less denomination than five dollars?

My official opinion is asked in relation to such acts of Assembly as may require the Executive interference.

I have carefully examined the acts referred to in conjunction with several others in relation to the Banks and Savings Institutions and have maturely considered the several questions propounded by your letter.

As to the 1st question. It is my opinion that the act of 1837 ch: 315 does not apply to any other suspension of specie payments by the Banks than that which existed at the time of its passage and that no other suspension was then contemplated. The object of the act was to provide a