

Hon E. C. Chambers

Dr Sir

State Department

March 20th 1845

I received by the Mail of ~~Monday~~ yesterday the enclosed letter together with a petition signed by the Jury who convicted Lewis Thayer at your late Court in Kent County asking that he might be pardoned - I have written to Messrs Vickers & Pricess that I have established as a rule for my guidance in such cases, that I would in no case grant a pardon unless some one of the Judges before whom the Petitioner was tried would recommend his pardon, & that I would enclose you their letter with the request that you would refer to the testimony in the case & if in your judgement a pardon ought to be granted that you would so write me - I have also stated to Messrs Vickers & Pricess that I feel confident that you would in all cases tried before you where you thought a pardon ought to be granted sign an application to the Governor asking a pardon - You will at once perceive that I shall be compelled to abandon the rule laid down by me if the Judges should decide that they would in ~~no case~~ ask for a pardon in a case of felony - Believing that the public interest would be greatly protected by the adherence to the rule I have established, I should regret to be obliged to abandon it & I shall therefore indulge the hope that your views & Judge Ecclestons upon this subject, has been misunderstood by Messrs Vickers & Pricess -

Respectfully &c

Thos G. Pratt

George W. Davis Esq. Atty. Gen. W. Tinges

Dr Sir

State Department

March 31st 1845

I have examined the application of William Tinges for a pardon & I have been constrained to reject it - I think in our State the marriage of a Black Man to a white woman should not be encouraged by giving a pardon to a Negro who is convicted for having married two white women -

Very respectfully &c
Thos G. Pratt

J. M. Coate Esq.
"The Chesapeake Canal Co"

Dear Sir

State Department

March 27th 1845

I have received your favor of the 19th inst concerning the forms of guarantee prepared by the ^{of the Chesapeake Canal Co} "Council" in conformity with the provisions of the Act, passed at the late Session of the Legislature & entitled "An Act to provide for the completion of the Chesapeake