

To Genl. A. Vaughan
Genl. Post Inst. for the Blind July 24th 1845
To John H. Cox Esq.
Genl. Post Inst. for the Blind

State Department
July 24th 1845

Sir

You will please admit into the Pennsylvania Institution for the ^{Indigent Blind} ~~Deaf & Dumb~~ as a pupil of the State of Maryland for the period of five years (or until otherwise ordered) Anderson Hoffman of Baltimore City now aged twenty one years -

Thos. G. Pratt

Saml. Jones Jr. Esq.
Pres. Balt. Ohio R. R. Co.

State Department
July 30th 1845

Sir

I have received your favour of the 28th inst. and have examined the Act of Assembly to which you refer with the anxious desire to come to the conclusions for which you contend -

You refer me to the 5th section of the Act of 1832 Ch. 175 and you say "that the authority given to the Governor to consent to a reduction below the maximum of \$2.⁵⁰/₁₀₀ is without limitation and as the Act of 1844 Ch. 103 authorizes the Co. of its own accord to reduce to a minimum of \$1.⁵⁰/₁₀₀ it to that extent repeals the Act of 1832" I find by looking to the 5th section of the Act of 1832 (to which you refer) that the last proviso is in these words "and provided that at any & all times whenever an application is made to the Legislature by said Co. to reduce said maximum and it shall be lawful for the Legislature to make such reduction of charges as it may deem necessary, not reducing the transportation of passengers to the Company below one dollar and fifty cents for the whole distance & ratably for any shorter distances" By the previous proviso of the 5th section the charge could not be reduced below \$2.⁵⁰/₁₀₀ "unless by the consent of the General Assembly or in the receipt of that body by the Gov." It is I think very clear by this Act of 1832 the Gov. in the receipt of the Legislature could only authorize such a reduction as in the language of that act first above quoted "would not reduce the transportation below \$1.⁵⁰/₁₀₀ &c."

If I am right in this you concede that as the Act of 1844 gives the power to the Co. to reduce to the same amount, it repeals the power conferred on the Gov. by the Act of 1832.

In reference to the charges by the Co. for the round trip, the power is conferred by the Act of 1836 exclusively upon the Co. and the law to which I am referred confers on the Gov. the right to interfere with or participate in the exercise of this power - The Act of 1844 Ch. 103 Sect. 2. confers the power upon the Company to transport for a less sum than is now authorized in cases where the trip is to be performed within the period of three days - It would seem to me, that if the Executive had exercised the authority,