

State Department  
October 19<sup>th</sup> 1846

To  
John V. McLaughlin Esq  
Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> inst. in which you offer to serve with the troops to be furnished by this State, to prosecute the war with Mexico. Your gallant services in the Florida War, was fully known and appreciated by me; and from my personal acquaintance with you, I have every confidence that the troops of your native State, could not have a more gallant Officer to lead them against the enemy. Under the Constitution of Maryland, no one in the service of the United States can be appointed to any office by me. This I suppose is an insurmountable barrier to the gratification of your wishes.  
Very sincerely & Respectfully  
Yours Thos. G. Pratt

State Department  
October 21<sup>st</sup> 1846

J. F. Bowie Esq  
Dept. of the Genl. P. G. Co

Sir

I enclose you for collection the account of the State against Mr. A. Dwyer the Collector of the State tax for 1843 & 1844. The first amounting to \$337<sup>83</sup>/<sub>100</sub> no interest from 1<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1844 and the latter to \$1,964<sup>20</sup>/<sub>100</sub> no interest from the 1<sup>st</sup> of Oct. 1845.  
Be pleased to acknowledge the receipt of the accounts.  
Your Obedt Servt,  
Thos. G. Pratt

State Department  
Oct 21<sup>st</sup> 1846

J. M. Crisfield Esq  
Sir

I received your favour of the 1<sup>st</sup> inst. in due course of Mail, & now embrace the first leisure moment to reply to it. The tax laws of the State are so numerous that I am not surprised that you omitted to consider the laws to which I now give you reference. The 7<sup>th</sup> Sect. of the Act of 1842 Ch. 269 specifies the period at which the tax for each year is to be paid into the Treasury & the 6<sup>th</sup> Sect. of the Act of 1845 Ch. 203 fixes the period for which interest is to be charged. So soon as I received your letter I determined not to press suit on Mr. Jones Bond as Collector; but I have been expecting him here according to the promise contained in your letter. It is important that as large a portion of the tax as possible should be paid into the Treasury by the 25<sup>th</sup> of November so that we may make as favourable an exhibit as possible in the Treasurer's Report to the Legislature & I will thank you to urge Mr. Jones to do all he can to aid us in this regard.  
Respectfully  
Yours Thos. G. Pratt