

State Department  
July 2<sup>d</sup> 1847

H. C. Long Esq.  
Dr. Sir

I enclose you a Draft as requested for \$250  
in part of your compensation as Superintendent of the erection of  
the Tobacco Ware Houses in the City of Baltimore.

As the contract was submitted to the Legislature and  
approved by them, I do not feel at liberty to alter it, unless  
some absolute necessity existed for so doing.

Very Resp<sup>t</sup>  
Your Obedt Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Thos G. Pratt

To Geo H. Richardson Esq.  
Secy of the Genl State of Md

State Department  
July 6<sup>d</sup> 1847

Dr. Sir

I sent you by Mr. Swann the  
papers received by me from the Pres of S. & T. Water Canal Co.

I do not know that I can be in Baltimore tomorrow, & I now  
write to request you (in that event) to attend & represent the interest  
of the State at the meeting of the Co. to be held in the morning.

I have examined the subject & am decidedly of opinion that it  
will be impolitic to suffer the work to go into the hands of Trustees  
residing out of the State, if it can be avoided by any action of  
the State or Co. You will perceive that the State holds two Mort-  
gages one dated in June 1839 to secure the punctual payment  
of interest on \$1,000,000 & the other dated in 1844 for the same  
other purposes. I think the interest of the State & Co. would  
be better subserved by filing bills in Pa. & Md. to foreclose  
those Mortgages than by any other course which can be taken.

If the Co. should concur in this opinion the bills  
could be filed & decrees of foreclosure obtained at once. By  
this course the proceedings under the requestration would be  
annulled & the management of the Co. placed under the con-  
trol of the State, whereby the continuance of the present  
efficient management of the Co. would be secured.

It is now all important to the State that she should  
receive punctually the interest on her loan to these Co.  
and I cannot advise or advise on the part of Maryland that  
the funds of those Co. should be placed in the hands of  
Trustees beyond the control of the State & those Co.

I must ask your consideration of this subject &  
I will if possible attend with you the meeting of the Co.  
tomorrow.

With Great Resp<sup>t</sup>  
Yours  
Thos G. Pratt