

is 5 years imprisonment and \$500 fine half of which goes to the informer (Thomas Richardson in this case, who had, therefore a double motive, in this case, for "swearing" had against Alberti), the maximum is 12 years and \$2000 fine. For a second offence 21 years imprisonment.

There is impending over Alberti, Price, George J. Price, et al. another charge of the same kind, and although these defendants had, in my honest belief, no thought of kidnapping, or in anyway violating law, yet I am afraid, that from the influence of a former conviction, and the prejudice against Alberti, he may be convicted a second time.

He is now 60 years of age, infirm in health, but without sympathy among us. He must have assistance from abroad.

I feel confident that if the case can be reviewed by the Supreme Court of the United States, that the decisions of our court will be reversed. If they are sustained I will acquiesce in them and support them.

It is to solicit your interference that I have written this letter, that you might make such representations to our Governor as would induce him to seek a confirmation of Judge Parsons opinions before the U.S. Supreme Court. If your Commissioner would hear the testimony that I am able to produce, if he could be sent on here that he might confront the witnesses, take their depositions and examine our records, he might incorporate such relevant matters in his report and they might have some influence upon our Governor.

Mr Alberti is a poor man: he relied upon contributions from Cecil County to pay Counsel. I merely mention this that you may note that I am not writing as a paid advocate.

Mr Alberti is in prison and does not know that I have thought of writing to any one in his behalf. I am simply doing what I deem to be an act of justice. If nothing can be done for the defendants, they must bear their wrongs with patience and fortitude and console themselves in the best way and with the finest philosophy they can summon to their aid.

Priggs case was taken to the Supreme Court by an arrangement. Why cannot this case be removed in the same way? There is no way of taking this case to the Supreme Court of our State by a writ of error, because the judges below are not compelled to sign a bill of exceptions, and, therefore, a writ of error would be of no service, because it would carry up nothing except the indictment and the verdict.

I have written this letter in a very desultory way, but it will answer my purpose if it affords you a full understanding of the case and elicits your influence in behalf of the defendants. Very Respectfully, Your obt. Servt. Mr. E. Lehman Jr.

P.S. I would be pleased to see Atty. Gen. Brints opinion, will he not publish it?