

hardship attending their cases, added to my own knowledge of the facts, obtained in the investigation of Mitchell's case, could not fail to excite my deepest commiseration. I am clearly of opinion that the Federal Constitution has been violated in their conviction.

It gives me much pain to find myself compelled, after mature reflection, by even a liberal construction of my Executive discretion, to decline granting your request. If doubts yet remained upon my mind, unsatisfied by the testimony procured at Elkton, I would not hesitate to forward the Commission to Philadelphia; but being clearly convinced of Mitchell's irresponsibility to the laws of Pennsylvania, by the evidence already before me, I do not feel authorized to extend the investigation, for collateral objects. The Constitution and laws of Maryland place me in no official relation to Messrs Price & Alberti. If the case of Mitchell required additional proof, and its procurement in Philadelphia could be made, incidentally, to subserve the interests of his unfortunate agents, it would afford me extreme satisfaction to accede to your wishes.

As the matter stands, I have no justifiable cause for further official action. I hardly presume that you consider it possible that I can possess any influence, either official or personal, with the Governor of Pennsylvania, which could be used to the advantage of Alberti & Price, inasmuch as I have just refused the requisition of his Excellency for the delivery of Mitchell, who is charged as principal offender. However, I could not hesitate to interpose, as far as personal propriety, and the dignity of the two States would justify my interference, if I was satisfied that such an act would be rightly estimated, and productive of happy results.

I have the honor to be, Very Respectfully
Yours &c
E. Louis Lowe.

61 Penn Street, Philadelphia 23^d of 1857

Dear Sir

I perceive by the morning newspapers, that ~~that~~ the Maryland State Convention, now in session, have taken some action on the case of J. S. Mitchell, and of his agents George F. Alberti & J. Finley Price. I was the Counsel of Mr Alberti in this case, and it gratifies me very much to learn, that the authorities of Maryland, are moving in this matter, so vital to their States' interest tranquility and prosperity. I have not the least doubt on my mind, on presenting the case properly to the Supreme Court of the United States but that the whole proceedings against Mr Alberti would be set aside and reversed, the law under which he was convicted declared unconstitutional,

Mr. Mitchell
to the Gov^t
concerning
the action of
the Convention
the
Mitchell
case.