

you will perceive that the very form of a requisition recognizes and expresses the fact, that the Governor has been informed that the offender has fled from the justice of the State, and taken refuge in the State to which the requisition is directed. The Indictment gives no such information; no affidavit is attached vouching for it; no assurance, verbal or written, is given from any source, as to this point; and therefore, even if I had no knowledge whatever of this particular case, I would not act upon the record as it stands. I enclose a blank form for your perusal, after reading which please destroy it.

I regret exceedingly that, right, as well as good policy dictate a course on my part, which must subject our citizens to inconvenience and loss. But, you will at once appreciate the plainness & directness of my duty, in this matter, when you consider my course in the Mitchell case. The Constitution and Laws warrant no other course; and the public interests, connected with the attitude of Federal politics, imperatively demand of every Southern Executive a strict adherence to the Constitution and the laws; the strict & cordial observance of which, in all the States, can alone save the Country from impending ruin. We, of the South, must be able to lay our hands upon the Constitution, and say, "we have obeyed it to the letter, and in the spirit, and we claim its protection, as the only possible alternative of disunion". We cannot insist upon its guaranties, and disregard its injunctions.

I am, with very great respect, Yr. ob. Serv. & friend

E. Louis Lowe.

State Department Annapolis March 28th 1857

John W. Robinson
Deputy Attorney Genl.
Sir,

From the
Secy State
to

Depty atty

Robinson

requesting

to stay

proceeding

Blackstone

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By direction of the Governor you are requested to stay proceedings against William H. Blackstone, Collector of taxes and his bond until the first day of May. The parties promise to pay the instalment now due by that time and do not wish any unnecessary costs added thereto by the Sheriff of Kent County.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully Yours
Thomas H. O'Neal
Secy of State.