

the matter to the consideration of the Legislature of this State, (which will assemble on the first Wednesday in January next) before proceeding further in the case. For that reason, I am directed to enquire of you the period, within which a writ of error may be sued out, by the law of your State, and what course must be adopted to secure the person of Childs, during the pendency of the appeal. If the matter is called to the attention of the Legislature in the Annual Message of the Governor, Childs may take the alarm, and make good his escape. You will also please send an estimate of the probable cost of proceedings, and a statement of such particulars as will naturally become questions of inquiry before the Legislature.

Respectfully,
 Your Obedt Servt.
 Tho^s. H. O'Neal
 Secy of State.

State Department
 Annapolis Md. September 15th 1857

His Excellency,
 The President of the United States.

Sir,

From the Govr to the President of this State, to-day, after temporary absence I received semi-official statements of the recent outrage committed in the State of W. States Pennsylvania, by a mob of outlaws, upon the persons of citizens of Maryland, who were peaceably engaged in the assertion of their rights, under the federal Constitution, and the laws of Congress. Although I have the most entire confidence of your Excellency to enforce the laws of the land at all hazards, and to the fullest extent, it nevertheless becomes my duty to address you this communication. Great as is the Crime committed, when considered solely in reference to the individual victims themselves, its enormity and danger can only be properly estimated, when viewed in connection with the present state of the Country. From the very beginning, Maryland has, with one voice, sustained the compromise measures. No man has dared to raise the flag of disunion within her borders. All parties have united in defence of the Constitution. All classes of our Citizens have renewed their vows of fealty to the institutions of their Fathers.

Maryland