

Final
letter of
Governor
in relation
to the con-
tinuing
difficulties
of Wyatt
in the piece
of the
11th Nov.

State Department,
Annapolis, March 31st 1852.

Rev. Dr. Wyatt,

Rev. Dr. Sir,

I owe you an apology for my very long delay in replying to your last communication, relative to the unfortunate misunderstanding which has occurred between yourself and the Directors of the Penitentiary. Immediately after the November elections, official business was crowded upon the Department to an unprecedented extent. Scarcely was I relieved from the first pressure, when it became necessary for me to commence the arrangement of the varied material for my Annual Message. Numerous Reports of the Public Companies, and the State Treasurer, and other similar documents, had to be read, compared and digested; and the results of the investigation to be put into a readable form for the Legislature and the people. Concurrently with these labors, I had the daily duties of my office to supervise and discharge. After the meeting of the Legislature, and the delivery of the Annual Message, I was besieged, for ten hours a day, by applicants for office; and harassed, worried and broken down by constant visits and importunities. When relieved from this embarrassment, I found myself twice called away from the seat of Government, by the urgency of private affairs, which had suffered much from repeated postponement. For the last few weeks I have been gathering up the ends of my multifarious official budget, from the neglected files of the Department. So that really, my dear Sir, I intended no disrespect whatever in thus permitting your letter to remain so long unanswered. This being a very inclement day, I have purposely remained away from the Executive Chamber; and have just re-perused the voluminous correspondence connected with this unpleasant controversy. Allow me to reply in the first place to such portions of your letter, as are personal to myself.

I was certainly led to believe from the language of your communication of the 10th of October, addressed to the Board of Directors (a copy of which they sent to me with their first note) that something more was intended by you than a merely inferential argument, when you stated that I had given an interpretation to the Charter of the Institution consonant with your views. I therefore concluded that you must have misunderstood the nature of the conversation.

[Handwritten signature]