

Executive Chamber,
April 9th 1852

Henry May Esq^r My dear Sir

The Governor instructs me to inform you that (if you consent) you are hereby assigned as Counsel for the State, to assist the State's Attorney of Allegany County, in the prosecution of Swann, charged with the murder of Sprigg. Your attention is called to the enclosed letter, just received by the Governor from the State's Attorney. After reading it, please return it to this Department. It will be necessary for you to proceed, as soon as possible, to Allegany County, as Court commences there on Monday, the 19th inst. Please acknowledge this letter immediately. If you cannot go, and Mr. Brent is willing to do so, please ask him to take your place.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedt Serv^t,
Thomas H. O'Neal,
Secy. of State.

Baltimore April 11th 1852

Thos H. O'Neal, Esq^r,

My Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your favour of the 9th inst., informing me that the Governor has been pleased to "assign me as Counsel for the State to assist the State's Attorney of Allegany County, in the prosecution of Swann, charged with the murder of Sprigg." I will accept this responsible duty, and beg you to say to his Excellency, that I most cordially thank him for this mark of his esteem & confidence.

You say that Court meets on Monday next (to-morrow) But Mr Gordon's letter (which I return enclosed as you request) states that the term does not begin "until next Monday week." This is also according to the Law, which I have consulted.

I am very truly & Respectfully yours
H. May

to know
Mr. May
will come
as counsel
to assist in
the prosecu-
tion of Swann

H. May
signifying
his willing-
ness to
prosecute
Swann.