

New York, March 31. 1853.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 11th. of October last in answer to mine of a prior date did not seem to require a reply. Beside, I then hoped to bring the case of the fugitive slave of W^m Lee to argument either at the December Term of our Supreme Court, or at the term held in February, and to be able to communicate the decision of the Court before the adjournment of the present session of your Legislature. Some very tedious cases came up for argument early in each of those terms, which prevented the court from making any progress with the calendar, though I believe I shall be able to dispose of the case in May.

I recently met the Hon. Revandy Johnson in Washington, where, in the course of a conversation, in which this case and its present position were spoken of, he suggested to me the propriety of communicating with you, before the adjournment of the Legislature, the more especially as I am now conducting the case, as the survivor of the late David Graham, who was my law partner, and not by authority of an original retainer.

Should you deem it expedient to make any communication to the Legislature on the subject of this litigation this letter will at least serve the purpose of calling the attention of your Excellency to the matter.

With great respect
Your obt Servt.

J. S. Carpenter

My Excellency
Gov. Lane.

Executive Chamber,

Morrisburg, March 29th 1853.

To the Governor and Heads of
Department of the State of
Maryland.

Gentlemen

In compliance with the unanimous request of both Branches of the Legislature of this State now in session, and in accordance with my own feelings, I most cheerfully write with them in extending to you, and the Heads of departments of your State, the invitation embodied in the