

I might feel it my duty in some cases to supply from the Contingent fund, an omission that was manifestly accidental or unintentional but it would be clearly improper for the Executive to grant an allowance from that fund, to an object which the Legislature, after consideration had expressly refused.

In relation to the last clause of your letter, asking information, as to what course of conduct you shall pursue, so as to discharge the duties of your Office, in the event that no provision is made for the Laboratory, I beg leave to say that your own better judgment, experience & knowledge of the resources at your command will be a safe guide, for your official conduct, than any suggestion which I could offer.

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
C. William Ligon

Bel Chi May 11th 1853

W. Sir: There are twelve or fifteen prisoners in Hartford County Jail, some of whom have been there nearly a year, anxious to be tried, and there is also an unusual amount of other Criminal business which ought to be immediately disposed of.

The health of Judge Constable precludes the possibility of his attending to any business at this time, and but slight hopes are entertained of his being able at an early period if ever, to resume his official duties. If your Excellency should think that you have under these circumstances the power to appoint a Judge to try these Criminal cases, the ends of justice, the interest of the County & the convenience of a great number of persons require that the appointment should be made immediately.

A number of lawyers here with whom I have consulted think with me that the Act of Nov. Session 1787 ch. 1. made perpetual by the Act of 1798 ch. 71. does not conflict with any of the provisions of the Constitution and is therefore not repealed by it, and that your Excellency has the power under existing circumstances to appoint a special judge to try the Criminal business of this County.

Will you be kind enough to consider this matter and let me hear from you as soon as practicable.

Very Respectfully
W. H. Wallam
State Attorney for
Hartford County

His Excellency
C. William Ligon