

Commission and the Undersigned a representation of the State
in his own name regarding, having the best opportunity for judgment
of the consequences of the proposed measure have no hesitation in
recommending to Your Excellency my opinion that a due regard to
the important public interests involved in the same requires the exercise
of that authority in the case now submitted to your Excellency.

With the utmost respect

Your Excellency's Obedient Servant

John D. Sillings
Joshua Vansant
S. C. Vickers.

Note: In original communication
made here in a letter of the 27th of July 1857

State of Maryland
Executive Department

Annapolis July 29th 1857

Wm. H. Garrison & G. D. Robinson
Counselors at Law, Baltimore.

Gentlemen:

I have received from Messrs John D. Sillings,
Joshua Vansant and S. C. Vickers Directors on the part of the State in the
Baltimore & Ohio River Road Co. a communication in which they represent
that the interests of the State are in danger of being prejudiced by the action
of the Company aforesaid in the matter of a proposed extra dividend of 30
percent payable at 1st January 1857 in scrip fundable in bonds of the Compa-
ny bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum &c. & requests
that Counsel may be assigned by me for the purpose of taking such
action in the premises as may be necessary to subserve the interests of the
State in the matter in question.

I understand that you have already
given considerable attention to the subject matter of the communication
aforesaid, and I have therefore thought it advisable to comply with the
request of the above named Directors by assigning you as Counsel on the
part of the State for the purpose of instituting at once an inquiry whether
anything is necessary to be done for the protection of the State interest
in that behalf. Should you conclude that the State is likely to suffer
from the action aforesaid of the Board of Directors of the Baltimore
& Ohio R. R. Co. you will then have no time in taking such legal action in
any of the Courts of this State, as in your judgment may be necessary
for its protection.

Respectfully &c
Wm. H. Garrison
G. D. Robinson
Counselors at Law

Baltimore, July 29th 1857

To Wm. H. Garrison
G. D. Robinson

Wm. H. Garrison
We have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of yours of 27th inst. assigning me as Counsel on the part