

to witness the downfall of that government,
 inherited from our fathers, established, as it were,
 by the special favor of God, I will at least have
 the consolation, at my dying hour, that I live on,
 by some indirect assistance in hastening its disruption.
 Wm. H. Wickes

Annapolis

Jan. 5, 1861

To the Sheriff of Frederick, Washington,
 Allegany, Harford and Cecil Counties,

The Governor directs me to say
 that you can discharge the force employed
 by you to prevent a stampede of negroes during
 the Christmas Holidays.

Respectfully
 Geo. W. Jefferson
 Private Secretary

Executive Department
 Montgomery Ala. Dec. 10th 1860

Whereas the election of Abraham Lincoln a
 Black Republican to the Presidency of the United
 States, by a purely sectional vote, and by a party whose
 leading public object is the destruction
 of the institution of Slavery as it exists in the slave
 holding States, and whereas the success of said
 party, and the power which it now has and
 soon will acquire, greatly endanger the peace,
 interests, security and honor of the Slaveholding
 States, and make it necessary that prompt
 and effective measures should be adopted to
 avoid the evils which must result from a Rep-
 ublican Administration of the Federal Government,
 and as the interests and destiny of the Slaveholding
 States are the same, they must naturally sympha-
 tize with each other, they therefore, so far as may
 be practicable, should consult and advise together
 as to what is best to be done to protect their mutual
 interests and honor.

Now therefore in consideration of the promises of
 Andrew D. Moore Governor of the State of Alabama by
 virtue of the general powers in one article of his
 Constitution, and a joint Hon. J. L. H. Gurney a
 citizen of said state, a Commissioner to the Sovereign
 State of Maryland to consult and advise
 with his Excellency Gov. Thomas H. Hicks and the
 members of the Legislature to be assembled in said
 state, as to what is best to be done to protect their
 mutual interests and honor of the Slaveholding States,
 and to report the result of such consultation in