

The preservation of the Union, and will not desert it, until the necessity shall be more apparent than at present, strongly opposed, as they were, to the election of Mr. Lincoln. The people of Maryland intend to make no opposition to, but if necessary will aid, in securing the peaceful inauguration of the President elected according to the forms of the Constitution,

I thank you most sincerely for the kind manner you tender the cooperation of the people of Pennsylvania, "in whatever great measures of Conciliation may be proposed."

Trusting in God, and Confiding in the good sense of the American people, I still look to Congress for a satisfactory adjustment of our difficulties; and I earnestly hope, that you, and those acting with you, may be successful in your patriotic endeavours to secure measures of Conciliation.

I am aware that much of the ill feeling between the sections, is attributable to the Personal Liberty Laws of some of the Northern States; and though these have been decided by the Courts, to be unconstitutional; yet they are offensive to us, and should be, as I do not doubt they will, be, repealed.

I believe the great body of the people North and South, are still sound in their attachment to the Union, and that the ultraists, alone, North and South, by their unwholy ambition, political and pecuniary, have brought our great Country to its present deplorable Condition.

Though my sympathies are with the South, I feel no undue prejudice against our Northern brethren, believing as I do, that there is little difference between the extremists of either section, as to the effect produced upon the Country. I look therefore to the prudent action of the patriotic men now in Council, and to the people themselves, to save the Country, and restore those fraternal relations that made us the admiration of the world, though the dreadful crisis now upon us, threatens the destruction of the Union, I trust in the same Providence that guided our Patriot Fathers, and hope through his interposition, wise Counsels may yet prevail and stay the hands to strike the fatal blow.

I am a native of Maryland, the owner of a number of Slaves, and my feelings and sympathies are naturally with the South; but, above and beyond all these, I am for the Union, and forgetting all but honor, am ready to sacrifice life and fortune, to save and perpetuate the Union of the States, formed by our Fathers under the Providence of God.

With sincere regard  
I am my truly your friend

Thomas H. Hicks

Hon. Excellency

W. G. Beer, Secy. of Pennsylvania