

ascertained to be encamped at or near Lockettsville, in Baltimore County. On being informed of this the War Department ordered them back.

Before leaving Baltimore, Col. Huger, who was in command of the U. S. Arsenal at Pikesville, informed me that he had resigned his Commission. Being advised of the probability that the mob might attempt the destruction of this property, and thereby complicate our difficulties with the authorities at Washington, I ordered Col. Petherbridge to proceed with sufficient force, and occupy the premises in the name of the United States Government; of which proceeding I immediately notified the War Department.

On Sunday morning last, I discovered that a detachment of troops under the command of Brig. Gen. B. F. Butler, had reached Annapolis in a steamer, and had taken possession of the practice ship Constitution, which, during that day, they succeeded in getting outside the harbor of Annapolis, where she now lies. After getting the ship off, the steamer laid outside our harbor, and was soon joined by another steamer, having on board the Seventh Regiment from New York City.

Brig. Gen. Butler addressed me asking for permission to land his forces. It will be seen from the correspondence herewith submitted, that I refused my consent.

The Mayor of Annapolis also protested. But both steamers soon afterwards landed at the Naval Academy, and put off the troops. Subsequently, other large bodies of troops reached here in transports and were landed. I was notified that the troops were to be marched to Washington. They desired to go without obstruction from our people; but they had orders to go to Washington and were determined to obey these orders. In furtherance of their designs, they took military of the Annapolis and Elk Ridge Railroad, in regard to which act I forwarded to Brig. Gen. Butler, the protest and received the reply herewith submitted. On Wednesday morning the two detachments first landed took up the line of march for Washington.

The people of Annapolis, though greatly exasperated, acting under the counsel of the most prudent citizens, refrained from molesting or obstructing the passage of the troops through the city.

Seriously impressed with the condition of affairs, and anxious to avoid a repetition of events similar to those which had transpired in Baltimore, I deemed it my duty to make another appeal to the authorities at Washington. Accordingly, I sent a special messenger to Washington, with a dispatch to the administration advising that no more troops be sent elsewhere, and urging that a truce be offered with a view of a peaceful settlement of existing difficulties by mediation. I suggested that Lord Lyons, the British Minister, be