

On the afternoon of Monday the 2nd Inst. he came up Port Tobacco creek in a steam boat to Chapel Point, spent the night there, and left next morning with some fifteen or more slaves on board belonging to citizens of this County — The exact number of slaves taken off we have up to this time been unable to learn, but we believe it will, when definitely known, be found to exceed rather than fall below, the figure above mentioned.

The boat on her way up the creek, stopped opposite the farm of the Messrs. Hare and sent a boat ashore, which undoubtedly was done to notify their slaves of his being at Chapel Point, as six of them absconded that night, and were seen to leave next morning in the boat — Other Gentlemen living in that vicinity lost their property the same night, but not to the same extent as the Gentleman above named — These slaves far from being prevented, were openly invited and received aboard the boat — This can be proved by citizens who were present and witnessed the proceedings — Among other circumstances tending to show the character of Col. Swain, we might mention the fact that on the evening of his arrival at Chapel Point, he went to the house of Mr. Nally (living near by) and threatened him, that if he did not retract what he had previously stated in his affidavit relative to his (Col. Swain's) conduct (and which your Excellency will remember, we had the honor of handing you in an interview with you on the 16th Ult.) he would arrest him and carry him to Washington — To Mr. Nally's reply that the facts set forth in the affidavit were true, and that he could not retract them, he turned off telling him to get ready to go to Washington in the morning; and supposing that he was really to be taken to Washington Mr. Nally actually prepared to go to Washington but the Colonel did not carry out his threat, but left without taking further notice of him — To this fact Mr. Nally is willing to make affidavit — We would further call your Excellency's attention to the character of the troops now stationed in our County — It is such as tends very materially to demoralize the slave population in our midst, by enticing, harboring, and otherwise tampering with them; to say nothing of their continued depredations upon the stock and farms of the farmers of the neighborhood. There are now at Chapel Point three Companies belonging to "Scott's 900," two at least of which, we are credibly informed, were previously stationed at Poolesville Md. who became so exceedingly annoying and troublesome to the citizens of that vicinity, that they petitioned the Secretary of War to remove them, which was done accordingly; shortly after this they were ordered to this County.

We would therefore respectfully request your Excellency to use your influence with Genl. Schenck to have these Companies removed outside the limits of our County, and if necessary to substitute others in their stead — If this were done, there would still be left in our County a Company of United States Regulars, at present stationed in Port Tobacco, under command of Lieutenant O'Connor, who, we are pleased to say, have conducted themselves with unexceptionable propriety since they have been among us.

In view of the foregoing, we would most respectfully invoke your Excellency's kind intervention — We feel assured that in making our appeal to you, that every thing will be done