

Public service could never have been designed for Passenger boats, or allowed to furnish facilities or favors of this kind for either white or black travellers — Indeed, if I am not mistaken the taking on board of passengers of any kind upon such transports, has been strictly prohibited; Such an order would appear to be most obviously proper, and if, as I think is the case, such an order has ever issued, I feel assured that under your direction it will be enforced, and made to apply to all classes.

I have the honor to be
With great Respect Your obt. servt.
A. W. Bradford

P.S. I send back agreeably to your request the papers received from you. A. W. B.

Bel Air 13th February 1863

His Excellency Governor Bradford

Sir:

Your letter was duly received, and I write to acknowledge your prompt attention and interest in the matter of my complaint, made as it was under a misapprehension of your position.

Besides Genl. Shriver's orders to forage which were shown to me, and his explicit statements Captain Clayton went so far as to specify as the fund to meet his expenses the confiscated property of delinquent conscripts.

Not doubting his declarations, and not wishing payment from such a source, whilst making no demand for compensation, I supposed that through his Superior the names withheld from me could be had, and the offenders remitted to the Civil tribunals — To me personally their punishment is of small importance and could give no pleasure; but the lesson to them and such men, that in Maryland the Soldier is not above the law, and that the pistol does not give immunity to crime, would be efficacious in restraining the wrongdoer and protecting the citizen. And it seems to me that just in proportion as the "belligerent state of the Country" invites to violence, is it imperative that the laws should be vindicated for the safety of property and person, and in just such times is it vitally important, that the Military should be subject to the Civil Authority.

Had Capt. Clayton's view of your relations been correct, the redress sought would have been attainable; as it is, while I am convinced that the wrong done me was wanton, and prompted by a petty malignity, (and not without the connivance of Capt. Clayton himself) I fear that notwithstanding your interposition, there will not be found any effort or disposition to discountenance such proceedings, or to punish the perpetrators.

Again thanking you for the trouble you have taken however fruitless it may prove

I am very respectfully Yours &c
James Hammond