

State of Maryland
Executive Department
Annapolis March 14th 1863

Major Genl. N. G. Schenck
Commandg. Middle Department &c
General.

I have just received a letter from Messrs. Burgess and others - the Committee of Charles County Citizens who preferred the charges against Col. Swain, some time since forwarded to you - enclosing letters from Dr. Wills and Judge Brent two of the Gentlemen upon whose statements these charges were predicated, and which are meant as rejoinders to the statement of Col. Swain which denies the truth of their statements - These Gentlemen are very properly sensitive upon the subject of an impeachment of their veracity, and the more especially as the statement of Dr. Wills was made upon oath.

They have therefore requested me to forward to you their rejoinder together with other papers sustaining their statements be with the request that they may be placed upon file with the other papers relating to this transaction, in the Adjutant General's office of the 8th Army Corps. I have therefore the honor herewith to enclose them, and beg that you will allow them to be filed as requested.

I am with great respect
Your obtt. servt.

A. W. Bradford

Leonardtown March 10th 1863

To His Excellency

A. W. Bradford

Sir:

During my Sheriffalty in 1860 I had certain Executions placed in my hands against Citizens of this County. I levied on negroes and as was the custom, left the negroes with their owners. Before I could sell the stay law passed the Legislature in May 1861 which was continued up to November last; after the stay law expired so far as these cases were concerned, and before I could sell, the negroes ran from their masters and went inside of the lines at Point Look-out. Notwithstanding my application to the Commander at that place I cannot get the negroes he having as he says, no authority to give them up. My object now is to request your interference so that they may be delivered to me. It would be a great hardship if as an officer of the law, my official Bond should be put in jeopardy by such proceedings and that too in the Bailiwick of the Sheriff.

Your obtt. servt.

J. Thompson Yates
late Sheriff St. Marys Co.