

Extract

I believe the able bodied negroes in Missouri will be worth more to the Government as soldiers than they are to their masters as laborers, and that this is the general opinion among slave owners in the State. Moreover I believe it would be a great benefit to the State, as well as the negro to have him transformed from a slave into a soldier.

I respectfully suggest that it might be wise policy to enlist all able bodied negroes in Mo., who may be willing to enter the service, giving to their masters receipts upon which those who established their loyalty may base a claim upon the Government for the value of the services lost. Those masters whose loyalty is undoubted might perhaps be paid immediately out of the substitute fund, and the doubtful cases left for future settlement.

If the Government decide to adopt such policy I shall be glad to carry it out.

Baltimore October 12th 1863

His Excellency

Augustus W. Bradford
Governor of Maryland

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 10th Inst. assigning me as assistant counsel on the part of the State in the trial of certain indictments for treason, under the statute of this State which are pending in the Circuit Court for Frederick County.

I accept the appointment and will give my attention to the cases without delay.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your obt. servt.
Wm. Price

War Department,
Pro. Marshal Genl's Office
Washington Oct. 14th 1863

His Excellency A. W. Bradford
Governor of Maryland

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 10th instant.

The assignment of the number of men to be furnished by the several districts by draft is made by the President in pursuance of the 12^d section of the Act of March 3^d 1863, "For Enrolling and calling out the National Forces" &c. For the current draft, one fifth of the number enrolled in Class I in the several districts has been fixed by him as the proportional part to be furnished.