

Baltimore, October 24<sup>th</sup> 1863

His Excellency A. W. Bradford  
Governor of Maryland

Sir:

According to your communication of the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst. I proceeded to Frederick and had a conference with the States Attorney John A. Lynch Esq. With his concurrence I examined the indictments, and gave him the opinion that they were defective for the reason assigned in my letter to Judge Nelson, a copy of which is sent herewith.

The prosecutions must commence *de novo*, by sending the witnesses again to the Grand Jury. I will prepare the indictments if requested to do, but certainly no trials can be had until proper indictments are filed.

Very Respectfully  
Yr. friend & servant  
Wm. Price

For copy of letter to Judge Nelson mentioned above see letter file enclosed in foregoing

Upper Marlboro, October 22<sup>nd</sup> 1863

To His Excellency  
A. W. Bradford  
Governor of Maryland

Sir:

In behalf of our fellow-citizens of this County, we waited on the President yesterday, and complained to him; that, a detachment of U. S. Troops had recently encamped here, collected a body of our negro-slaves, resisted and prevented the civil officers of the State from taking them, in execution of the laws of the State, and carried them off to the District of Columbia;

That detachments of armed negroes, among them our own slaves, are now occupying the landings on the Patuxent river, seizing and carrying off the slaves from the plantations, and greatly endangering the peace and safety of our defenceless families.

We submitted to the President the alarming and intolerable grievance of subjecting to Military authority, to be exercised over them by revolted slaves and armed negroes, a free white people entitled to the laws and liberties of the other people of the United States.

The President answered that the Governor of Maryland and the Secretary of War had come to an understanding in regard to the measures to be taken to recruit negro soldiers from the State of Maryland; that no complaint of these measures had reached him before ours; that he would order an enquiry into it; by a telegram to Genl. Schenck, and by sending an officer of the Adjutant General's department immediately to the Patuxent; that "the soldiers must be had"; but, that he, in effecting it, had no desire to offend, insult, or needlessly injure our people; that our complaint of the employment of the colored troops in this matter