

State of Maryland
Executive Department
Annapolis March 18th 1864

Hon. R. Johnson

My Dear Sir:

I take the liberty of enclosing you a copy of a letter received to day from the States Atty. of Prince Georges County in reference to a general jail delivery forcibly effected there a few days since by a detachment of negro troops. I have written to the President on the subject and enclosed him a copy of Belt's letter. I don't wish to put you to any trouble in the matter, but if you can make it convenient to see the President in the course of a few days, you may possibly induce him to pass some such order as will prevent the occurrence of such outrages.

"Hav' overruled" as some parts of our State now are with Camp Followers and Contrabands, if our jail doors are to be thrown open in this manner with impunity, there is no saying where the end will be —

Yours very truly

A. W. Bradford

State of Maryland
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Edward W. Belt Esq.
States Atty &c

Sir:

I have received your letter of 15th Inst. in reference to the forcible release of the prisoners confined in the jail of Prince Georges County by a detachment of negro troops.

I have written to the President upon the subject, inviting his attention to the serious character of the outrage, and asking that not only shall the perpetrators be punished, but that such an order may issue as shall prevent such occurrences in the future. I enclosed to him a copy of your letter.

I have also written on the same subject to Hon. Reverdy Johnson, in hopes that he may be able to exert a favorable influence in the matter.

Yours very Respectfully
A. W. Bradford