name and rank I have been unable to learn, appeared in this neighborhood, having previously visited other sections of the country, and proceeded to force into their ranks every male negro they could find, free or slave, without regard to age or condition, threatening instant death to any who refused to go with them. The neighborhood has thoroughly searched every farm within and every negro they could find from the boy of 12 years to the man of 60, seized and carried off. In many instances the poor terrified wretches attempted to escape by flight, when the negroes turned upon them and pointed at them their guns threaten to shoot them dead if they did not stop. In no single instance, so far as I have been able to ascertain, was any one consulted as to whether he desired to go. No one did go willingly. Many of these thus taken were free negroes. I will cite one or two cases which may serve to illustrate the character of the whole proceeding.

One free negro man at least fifty years of age, was taken from the field of one of our farmers, his plough and team left standing in the field, while he was not permitted to go home to obtain even necessary clothing. This man left five small motherless children with no human being to provide for them.

Another a free man over fifty years of age old and lame was taken, leaving behind him a perfectly helpless and now utterly destitute family to be provided for by public charity. Another a slave of nearly sixty years of age, almost blind and laboring under consumption was forced away. I could furnish many more but these are sufficient. I have personal knowledge of the facts I have named and am told there are many similar cases in this and other neighborhoods. — All these men taken not only without their consent, but in spite of their earnest entreaties, prayers and tears, and actually driven at the point of the bayonet to Cambridge, placed on board a Government Steamer and carried off. Many of our farmers are to day without a single hand, our farmers, have been previously deprived of their slaves, had been gradually collecting such free negroes as they could find and with this labor were attempting to cultivate at least a portion of their farms. And now, while in the midst of cultivating their crops of corn, this labor has been thus forced from them.

I do not believe there is labor enough in this neighborhood to raise bread for the community — I am sure there is not in this election district fifteen able bodied men white and negroes together. I cannot believe the President will sustain these men in their most outrageous proceedings — The white man, said I am told, he was acting under orders from Col. Beirman. If this be so I have no doubt the order originated with him. I have felt it my duty, my dear Sir, unpleasant as it is to acquaint you with these facts, all of which can be attested by men as reliably as there is in Maryland. You can well imagine the feelings of our people when proceedings are much more intolerable when they remember the unwavering loyalty of our people.