

is admitted to have furnished its full quota - should be forced
away at the point of the bayonet and carried no one knows where.

St. Canoll is, I am sure, right when he says, "I can not believe
the President at least will sustain these men in their most extra-
"quous proceedings". In fact I am at times almost tempted
to believe that persons hostile to the Government or your administra-
tion of it, are instigating such proceedings for the very purpose
of rendering it unpopular. - How recently sensitive
to such an outrage the Community where it occurs must
be may be inferred from the fact mentioned by St. Canoll
that that election for circuit clerks took place the first place
where the flag was unfurled after the occurrence of the
19th of April 1861, and that to such an extent has its laboring
class been reduced, by recruiting operations that there are not now
in the District as the Doctor ^{says} "fifteen able bodied men white and
negroes together" - its voting population is, or rather was,
two years ago about 130.

I trust Mr. President that you may deem
this a case proper for some prompt proceeding - I have come
to learn that in the military sense of the term an "investiga-
tion" amounts only to a reference of the complaint from one
officer to another until it reaches the one implicated, who is ex-
pected to furnish some explanation of his conduct, which
he generally manages to do, in such a manner at least that
any further proceedings are impossible.

May I ask that in this case your Excellency
will appoint some one to repair to Dorchester County and
there take on the spot the testimony of witnesses in reference
to these occurrences, that you will cause the men thus violent-
ly carried from their homes to be restored, and such an order
to be passed and promulgated as will effectually prevent
the repetition of such an outrage hereafter.

I have the honor to be
With great respect
Your Obedt. Servant
A. W. Bradford.

State of Maryland
Executive Department
May 12th 1864

Dr. J. R. Canoll Esr.

My dear Sir

I received last night
your letter of the 9th in reference to the last outrage in
Dorchester County, and to day I have had a copy made
of it and sent it with a letter from myself to the President.
Hearing that within busy times it might prob-
ably be overlooked by his Secretary and sent off to some
of the Department without coming to the President's
sight, I enclosed it with a letter to the Post Master