

and of which, as he says the sum of \$190 was afterwards paid by the Commissioners of Allegany County to you under the power of Attorney of the said Harris — He was enlisted as I am informed, about the last of February 1864 as the slave of Mr. Slicer by Lieut. Jas. W. Leimby who gave to the owner a certificate of enlistment, descriptive list &c which were filed with the Board of Claims sitting in Baltimore, who duly passed upon the claims of Mr. Slicer and allowed it.

Under such circumstances it is difficult to understand how this man could be returned as a free colored Vol., but I find his name as such upon the Rolls returned here, in confirmation of Mr. Thurston's statement — He names three other owners whose slaves he says, were similarly enlisted and who have been returned as free Volunteers — The case certainly serves to illustrate the necessity for the precaution which the County Commissioners have been requested to exercise, and to which I adverted in replying to your communication on that subject some weeks since — (But I call it at this time more particularly to your attention for the purpose of advising you that Joseph S. Harris is not entitled to bounty as a free colored Volunteer, and to request that you will not pay over to him any part of such bounty which you may have received as his Agent or Attorney.)

In this connection I would take occasion to call your attention also to a declaration which as I am informed today, was made within a day or two past by an Officer engaged in recruiting Colored Volunteers in this County, and of rumors to similar effect which have reached me from other parts of the State — The declaration was that these Colored Volunteers now enlisting in this County would not be credited to the County, but to the City of Baltimore, and this in consequence of delay imputed to the County Commissioners in not paying as promptly as it was thought they should, the bounty to persons returned as free colored Volunteers — I beg leave to enquire whether this recruiting Officer spoke by your authority or if you have given any instructions to that effect —

Yours Respectfully  
A. W. Bradford

State of Maryland  
Executive Department

Annapolis May 26<sup>th</sup> 1864

Major Genl. Lew. Wallace  
Commanding Middle Department  
General:

The Sheriff of this County has just waited upon me with a letter received by him from