

no part of it should "be altered, changed or abolished" but by an Act of Assembly passed and ratified in the manner which our first Constitution prescribed.

Were I to undertake to declare that a clause introduced into a Constitution framed by such a Body and adopted by a large majority of its members, was unconstitutional and ought not to be obeyed, I would not only be unlawfully exercising as I have already said, a judicial function, but should be most grossly wanting in that respect justly due and always heretofore rendered to a Body of that description.

Please therefore make known to the Citizens you represent the reasons why I cannot interfere in the manner they request, but on the contrary, feeling myself bound by the 10th section of the 12th Article of the Constitution as adopted by said Convention, shall only count such votes as are certified in the manner thereby prescribed.

Very Respectfully
Your obedt. Servt.
A. W. Bradford

War Department
Washington City
September 17th 1864

Sir,

I am instructed by the Secretary of War to request that your Excellency will cause Sergeant Charles Stewart, of Company A, 1st New York Veteran Cavalry, who is now confined in the Hagerstown jail, charged with Murder or Manslaughter, to be surrendered to the Military Authorities at that place, with a view to his trial by a Military Tribunal, the 30th section of the Act of March 3, 1863, giving exclusive jurisdiction to Courts martial over a class of cases in which Sergeant Stewart is embraced.

Very Respectfully
Your Excellency's obedt. Servt.
G. A. Dana
Asst. Secy. of War

His Excellency
A. W. Bradford
Governor of Maryland