

be obvious to you. I must hold a large margin for the present, having engaged with all persons from whom I borrowed money to keep in their hands, in bonds, the value of ten per cent. above the amount, estimating bonds at *the lowest price* sales may be made in the market. If sales should be made as low as 66, therefore, it will require nearly all I now hold to cover my loans, and if parties should attempt to *force* the sale of £40,000, or £50,000, it would soon fall to that price.

I thought I had represented to you the difficulties I have had to encounter in meeting engagements for your company, and stated the *impossibility* of effecting sales of the Maryland bonds to any extent, in language as strong as a proper respect to you and your board would admit, and such as I supposed could not be misunderstood. Mr. Jenkins, however, informs me that you and your board of directors continue under the impression that I could have sold the bonds at *some price*, and not only relieved myself from the heavy engagements I am under, but protected your bills. I am also led to the same conclusion from the purport of your last letter, and will now endeavor to put you right upon the subject.

Had the legislature of Maryland acted promptly in substituting the sterling bonds for the certificates, and they could have been placed in my hands early last spring, I have no hesitation in saying that I could have made some large operations, which would in a great measure have relieved you, and in all probability 90 per cent. could have been obtained for the bonds. Since they came into my possession, however, in July, there has never been a time when I could have sold even to the extent of £50,000, without making such a sacrifice as would most seriously have impaired their credit, affected materially future sales, and rendered new loans, or a renewal of old ones impracticable.

In former years, a concession of 2 or 3 per cent. enabled holders of such stock to sell to any extent, but such is not the present state of the market. It is not a matter of *price*, but of *demand*, and I wish you distinctly to understand that at no period since your first remittance of the bonds has the market been in a state to have enabled me to sell, at *any sacrifice*, a sum sufficient to have afforded you even temporary relief; and I do not believe that the entire sales of American stocks in Europe, (Bank U. S. shares excepted) amounts to the sum which you required me to raise, although more than fifty millions have been in the market for sale.

On receiving the first £25,000 I immediately placed the bonds before the principal houses in Holland, and in the hands of the brokers here, and in no instance have I refused *any* offer that has been made. If I had reduced the price to 70 I doubt whether I could have sold much more than I have. I confidentially stated to one or two of the principal houses in Amsterdam the absolute necessity of my raising a large amount of