

a few days, and in the meantime pay off the estimates, and proceed with the regular business of the office.

I returned to Washington on the 8th of April, and on Thursday the 9th, Mr. Ingle, the clerk of the company, requested me to call on Mr. Thomas, explain this and ask if he (Mr. Ingle) should call a meeting of the board on Friday to pass an order for the payment of the estimates &c., which I did in part when Mr. Thomas replied that there was no necessity for a board to be called, as he would give a draft upon a bank in Baltimore for the money needed, and told me further, that there was no necessity for my giving a bond, and if I had mentioned it to him before going to Virginia, he would have saved me the trouble—that another commissioner would be appointed, as the duties would be too much for me to perform, and the salary was too little—that the engineer corps would have to be increased and new appointments made. He directed me to continue as I was until the 1st of May, pay out the estimates and give myself no more trouble about the bond.

I asked Mr. Thomas if I was at liberty to repeat the conversation between us, to Mr. Ingle; he replied “certainly, by all means,” and directed me to say to Mr. Ingle that he (Mr. T.) would call by the office the next morning on his way to the Capitol, and attend to the estimate—and if he should forget it, Mr. Ingle was to send the porter with a note to Mr. T. at the Capitol.

I mentioned these things to Mr. Ingle and declined to take any further steps in preparing a bond, unless the board should take some action in the matter, as I considered it disrespectful to the President of the company—but told Mr. Ingle that I would furnish one if the board wished it.

Your obedient servant,

WM. H. BRYAN.

*Virginia, Loudon County, Oct.*

Wm. H. Bryan, personally appeared before me the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in and for the county aforesaid, and made oath, that the written statement or response is true.

Given under my hand, February 2d, 1841.

SAML. W. EDWARDS.