

*here*, is perhaps not to the purpose. It is *you* that must be satisfied that there is a reasonable hope of their expectation being realized. There is the deepest solicitude in Baltimore in regard to your acceptance of the situation. There would be the most profound regret throughout the community should you decline it. This I sincerely trust you will not find it necessary to do. Should it become so, however, it will be perhaps, better upon reflection to say so briefly, without letting it be expressly understood the hopelessness of the enterprize deters you; as this would certainly dampen much of that ardor among the friends of the undertaking that is essential to its success, and which I trust will accomplish it yet.

Most sincerely, in common with my colleagues and mutual friends, hoping you may conclude to accept the appointment,

I am, dear sir,

Most respectfully and truly yours,

J. W. PATTERSON, *Chairman.*

I certify that the within is a true copy,

J. I. ATKINSON, *Secretary*

*Of the Balt. and Ohio Rail Road Company.*

*February 14th, 1843.*