

1862

as if alone; sustained only be honor; and a zealous desire to be useful. Cherishing the glory of my State, and above all, the prosperity, happiness and integrity of my country. I thank your Excellency, for having reminded me of the peculiar circumstances over six months ago which induced me to decline the acceptance of this sword at that time, and which requires a passing notice. When the present unhappy condition of our country was first developed many inquired my views and opinion, and what course I intended to pursue. I had only one reply: born in the Union, educated in and by the Union, having fought in and for the Union, I should die in and for the Union.

For this I was assailed by the Press of Maryland opposed to these sentiments. No terms were sufficiently vituperative to express their indignation. I then declared I would not accept this beautiful sword (however highly I cherished the gift) until after the election of members of the General Assembly, and if they were in majority opposed to my sentiments, I could only accept it after a reaffirmation of the gift. The election is past, the members elected are almost unanimous for the Union, leaving me free to accept the gift with gratitude since my course has been approved by the people of the State.

I respectfully request, sir, you will convey to Governor Hicks the acceptance of my sincere thanks for the part he so kindly has taken in this matter. The Legislature left to him the design. The sword in its emblems, elaborate embellishments and fabrication, evinces not only his excellent taste, but the faithful fulfillment of the duty imposed on him.

Your Excellency has used many kindly expressions, evincing the goodness of your heart, which shall ever be gratefully remembered. Your hopes of the future shall not be disappointed. Where glory is to be won, where duty leads, as a Marylander I shall do my utmost to carry the flag wherever my country directs, and to sustain the proud name won in the days of yore for Maryland, whose sons were ever foremost in the battle, or crimsoned the battle field with their blood.

To the members of the Legislature, Senators and members of the House of Delegates who voted this sword for my humble services in the Mexican war, I return an old soldier's grateful acknowledgements, for this precious, proud gift of your kind consideration. Be assured, gentlemen, when this blade is drawn from its scabbard in hostility, it will be as his Excellency advises, in a worthy cause—in defence of our common country and for the glory of our beloved native State.

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Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> The Governor issued notice to be given of an application for Habeas Corpus in the case of Frank B. Carter indicted in the Court of Frederick Co. at February term 1862 for keeping a Billiard table without a License.