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State Department
Annapolis 20th March 1849

Dear Sir:

Herewith enclosed, you will receive an account for money due the State, from James & Price collector of taxes in the 7th district of Cecil county for the year 1844. You will perceive by the enclosed letter from Wm. H. Gilpin, one of the securities in Price's official bond, bearing date September 9th 1848 that suit was not entered against Price's bond at the last October Term of Cecil County Court in consequence of the assurance therein given that the claim would be paid by the first of the present month. The same assurance was also, verbally given by Herman McCallough the co. security of Mr. Gilpin. To my surprise, the enclosed letter dated 19th ult. together with a written opinion of Mr. Constable, a copy of which is herewith sent, was received this morning at this Department. You will perceive that, so far from paying the balance due the State, the securities intend to contest her right to recover.

The account now enclosed, is for a balance of \$897.32 with interest from 1st October 1848. According to the suggestion of Mr. Gilpin's letter you will see good enough to docket a suit against Price's official bond at the ensuing Term of Cecil County Court and bring the matter to a close as speedily as possible. If you prefer to proceed summarily under the Act of Assembly, by notice you will adopt that course.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this, with the enclosures, as soon as it comes to hand

I am very respectfully
your obt. servt.
Philip A. Thomas

Joseph Wickes Esq.
Deputy Attorney General
for Cecil County

State Department
Annapolis 22nd March 1849

Dear Sir:

My attention was, on yesterday, directed to the enclosed notice of an act of the Legislature of Virginia guaranteeing, upon certain conditions, bonds of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company to the amount of \$200,000. May I take the liberty to inquire of you, for what purpose it is intended to issue these bonds and to what object their proceeds are to be applied.

I have, also, seen it stated that, at the last meeting of the Canal, held in the city of Washington, it was determined to reduce the toll upon Coal &c. Will you do me the favor to inform me whether such a proceeding has, in fact, taken place, and if so, to what (standard)