

Washington December 1st 1849

Dear Sir:

I herewith return the Commission ^{with} which you honored me in March last appointing me one of the Senators to represent the State of Maryland in the Congress of the United States until the next meeting of the Legislature of Maryland.

Doubts have been recently expressed whether the mere act of presenting the Commission to the Senate would not of itself amount to a resignation of the appointment which I hold from the Executive of the United States; and I do not wish to decide that I must take any step which may appear to justify such a supposition. I am reluctantly constrained to forego the high honor which you conferred upon me.

Be pleased to accept my sincere thanks for the distinguished and gratifying evidence of esteem and friendship which has been shown to me by the worthy Representatives of the people of Maryland.

I have the honor to be
ever respectfully yours
(signed) Genl. Howard

His Excellency
Governor Thomas

State Department
Annapolis 6th December 1849

My dear Sir:

By the mail of this morning I have received from Genl. Howard a communication declining for reasons therein stated, to qualify as a Senator from this State in the Senate of the United States in the place of the Hon. Beverly Johnson, now Attorney General, and enclosing me the Commission which I sent him on the 10th of last March. Believing it important that this State should be fully represented in the Senate, and entertaining for you the highest respect and confidence, I now tender you the appointment which General Howard has declined to accept. The Commission appointing you a Senator from Maryland in the place of Mr. Johnson until the next meeting of the Legislature is herewith enclosed, and I hope it may be consistent with your inclinations and business engagements to proceed to Washington for the purpose of qualifying and taking your seat in the Senate.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
yours obt. Servant
Philip F. Thomas

David Newash Esquire
Baltimore