

Department of State.

April 22^d 1861

His Excellency

Thomas H. Hicks,

Governor of Maryland,

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your communication of this morning, in which you inform me that you have felt it to be your duty to advise the President of the United States, to order elsewhere the troops then off Annapolis and also that no more may be sent through Maryland, and that you have further suggested that Lord Lyons be requested to act as mediator between the ^{contending} parties in our country to prevent the effusion of blood.

therefore be the least objectionable one.

The President cannot but remember that there has been a time in the history of our country when a General of the American Union with forces "designed" for the defence of its capital was not unwelcome anywhere in the State of Maryland and certainly not at Annapolis, then as now the capital of that patriotic State, and then also one of the capitals of the Union.

If eighty years could have obliterated all the other noble sentiments of that age in Maryland, the President would be hopeful, nevertheless, that there is one that would forever remain

there and everywhere. That sentiment is, that no domestic contention whatever, that may arise among the parties of this Republic, ought in any case to be referred to any foreign arbitrament, least of all to the arbitrament of an European monarchy.

I have the honor to be,

With distinguished consideration

Your Excellency's most obedient servant

William H. Seward.