

with a reputable lawyer to defend us, do herewith offer the use of our water for electric purposes at $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. per kilometer, with the following provisos: that the State of Maryland furnishes the plant and wire and strings the same in this said section in question, for lighting purposes. I also offer the use of our stone, grey, according to the law, at the market value, measured according to the law, for road purposes, for improvement of this said section in question, with bond for fifty years, enumeration to be settled by the State of Maryland monthly with bond from the State of Maryland under contract drawn up by a reputable lawyer of our own selection. My people in Carroll county are willing that you can advance the taxation from 87 cents, the present rate, to \$1.25 per \$100, providing you give them the improvements they require in roads and electric services, with my water and with our stone at the prices mentioned in this letter of today, net to these gentlemen, of which I specify. If you require the names of the said gentlemen in question, I take the extreme pleasure at any moment to forward you the said names of the gentlemen we are interested with.

This is an exceptionally good chance for the State of Maryland. We do not care to transact any business of any calibre through Westminster court or Westminster commission, for the best reasons known to ourselves. We would prefer to have the business transacted through Baltimore authorities if possible. We have written letters prior to this time and they have gone to Westminster and never been recognized.

I, Frank A. Brown, as a full-fledged partner of twenty-four of the richest gentlemen in the said section mentioned in this letter in question, do hereby in the eyes of the law prior to making any deals for these said goods in question, that we must receive a letter either one way or the other, otherwise these twenty-four rich gentlemen will proceed to the law of the United States Supreme Court and have you show cause why you do not pay any attention to men of standing that own something that no one else has in this same section.

Excuse this broad abbreviation, as all business men transact business upon a business basis and we would like to have you read this proposition before the Senate of Maryland, upon receipt thereof.

Address all communications to F. A. Brown, Finksburg, R. F. D. No. 1, care of John Harman, one of my partners. By so doing you will oblige,

Yours respectfully,

F. A. BROWN.