

bonds all the advantages which the most wealthy and respectable houses in Europe can influence in their favor.

The price is low, but when I reflect upon the unprecedented state of the money market, and the almost total discredit of *all* American securities in Europe, connected with the great loss and embarrassments which would have resulted to your company had the bills you have drawn have returned. I feel a relief from the negotiation which words cannot express.

Since the bonds came into my hands, and you made me acquainted with your situation and wants, my mind has had constantly in view a similar arrangement to that I have made, as the only mode by which you could be relieved; and my most anxious attention and exertions have been put in requisition to prevent any forced sale of the bonds, and to sustain their credit and price, for on that, as I before said, my success depended.

The near approach of the maturity of your bills would have prevented my doing this much longer; in fact, a week before the conclusion of my negotiation I was confidentially informed by a broker of great influence, (whose interest it was to favor my plans) that one party was about treating for the sale of £50,000 at 70 or less, and that another house had said to the brokers: "Find out the lowest price Mr. Peabody has taken for any of the bonds, and sell mine 1 per cent. less. Thus have I been annoyed and perplexed.

Since the knowledge of the necessities of your company, and the hypothecation of the bonds, (as collateral security for the payment of bills) in various hands, on both sides of the Atlantic, has been publickly known, the impression among capitalists has been general that the stock would be sold very shortly at 60 or 65, and even a less price seems to have been anticipated by you. If, in addition to my other engagements, I had added my name to the £200,000 of your bills when presented, my independence would have been gone, and like the agent of the Bank of the U. S., should have been compelled to submit to *any* terms capitalists chose to demand; be assured, therefore, that it has proved most fortunate to your interests and the credit of the state that I did not place myself in that situation.

It seems that 65 was the highest price the parties with whom I have contracted fixed for the bonds, but this price I refused to entertain for a moment, and the negotiation was temporarily broken off. It was, however, renewed soon after I made the large operation for Ohio and Pennsylvania stock, as advised in my letter of the 15th, which was reported to them much magnified as it respects its advantages to you, and to *that* barter do I in a great measure impute my success in getting the price stated.

As the amount of my loans had been much reduced by sales, I could have managed to carry on a considerable portion for a few months longer; and it was my wish not to have sold at present more of the bonds than sufficient to pay your bills, but