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January 5th 1932

Rev. Robert F. Coates,  
1911 Vermont Avenue, N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir -

I beg to acknowledge your favor of January 4th, enclosing Resolution adopted by the District Superintendents of the Washington Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church relative to the lynching of Matthew Williams in Salisbury, and a certain other lynching in West Virginia.

As Governor of Maryland, I deplore the Salisbury lynching, and have so stated publicly, and everything which the State authorities can do to apprehend the perpetrators is being done. The Attorney General of the State has had personal charge of the matter, and every agency which I can command has been at work on the investigation.

Unfortunately, it has not been possible, so far, to secure sufficient evidence to justify any arrests, but we are trying our best to do it, and I trust we will be successful.

Very truly yours,

GOVERNOR.

R-E