unhinged by my position that I dared not go to see my dear old mother in Baltimore for fear of the effect on her in her declining state. Make for me the best excuse for not coming over you can, and prepare her for a visit which I shall soon make to you

~~I am~~ Prepare her to see a ruined & broken hearted son. Ask my good sister Sally for God sake if she cannot approve, not to discuss my situation. It is the result of circumstances that were beyond my control & she should at least be satisfied to know that my honour is unsullied

Affly Yrs
W. H. Emory

The Eastern shore of Md. isolated as it is and always open to naval power & close to land power, would commit an act of civil suicide to lift a finger agst the U.S. or even to agitate the question, unless worked mentally result