

As an equivalent for such a donation, the college might be required to educate, free of cost, a number of deserving young men from the several counties, in just such branches as are most readily learned. Each of the students at such an institute, on returning to his home, would form the centre from which the military knowledge thus acquired would be disseminated. In no other way could the object be accomplished so thoroughly, and at so small an expense to the State. The choice of a location for establishing such a branch, would, of course, rest with the General Assembly, but I cannot forbear to recommend St. John's College as particularly suited for the purpose. Its position at the seat of Government, under the supervision of the Legislature and Executive, its fine grounds, its central and accessible location, and its salubrious situation, combine to render it an appropriate place for making the essay. The students might serve, as they do at Lexington, as guards for the Armory, and other public property, now so much exposed to any sudden attack. According to this plan the task to be performed by this State would be an easy one, compared with what has already been accomplished by other States, who have expended large sums to obtain advantages, which are accessible to Maryland at a small outlay.

In conclusion, permit me to say, that in the opinion of the undersigned, the State of Maryland, under existing circumstances, will be wanting in loyalty to herself and the Union, of which she is an integral part, if she is not aroused to the necessity of establishing her militia upon such a basis that it may afford the proper bulwark of defence.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

N. BREWER, of JOHN,
Adjutant General, M. M.