

To the Honorable, the Members of the
General Assembly of the State of Maryland.

Gentlemen: The Fourth Regiment, Maryland National Guard, respectfully begs leave to submit to you its petition setting forth the facts connected with its measures before your assembly.

The Fourth Regiment, Maryland National Guard, asks your assembly for two measures.

1st. To grant it an appropriation of thirty thousand dollars, and

2nd. To pass a joint resolution for the State to accept from the proper authorities of Baltimore city, a deed for the property which the regiment now occupies.

We think these two objects very meritorious.

In regard to the first, as far back as 1856, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore city, acquired the property now occupied by the regiment, and used it for a number of years for a Female High School until its condition became such as to render it unsafe for this use, it was then condemned. The Fourth Regiment, Maryland National Guard took possession of it, and by the assistance of your assembly and Baltimore city, with past appropriations, converted it into an armory. But in this conversion from a condemned building into an armory as it now stands, the expense was considerable larger than was anticipated at the time. As the work progressed difficulties were encountered that were not anticipated at the time.

The plans and specifications were submitted. Plans had to be changed and alterations made so that the cost of construction and remodeling the building was materially increased.

All of the appropriations granted by your Assembly and Baltimore city in the past were consumed and there now remains an unpaid indebtedness on the building amounting to thirty thousand dollars.

The creditors are becoming more restless and pressing in their claims. For some time past, it has been through their sufferance that the regiment has been permitted to remain in possession of its armory. Some