

of full information in relation to the cost, &c., of modernizing these old arms, I beg leave to refer them to the subjoined correspondence:

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
ANNAPOLIS, Dec. 28th, 1859. }

COL. H. K. CRAIG,

Col. of Ordnance, Washington, D. C.:

There are now in the Armories of this State various old muskets of different patterns—all of the smooth bore, many with flint locks, and some without bayonets. I have understood that the State of New Jersey, and perhaps other States, have found themselves similarly circumstanced, and have obtained leave from the general government to have them altered to the Minie pattern upon making compensation for the service rendered.

I propose to recommend to the Legislature of this State to have the old muskets modernized, and am desirous to ascertain, 1st, whether this can be done by the general government upon payment by the State for the service; 2nd, what would be the expense of rifling the smooth bore muskets with the spiral groove; 3d, what is the cost of altering the flint lock to percussion; 4th, the cost of proper bayonet.

If you will be good enough to turn this letter over to the person who can give me these items of information, you will confer an advantage upon the State. I fear your own time may be too much occupied to attend personally to it.

Very respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

N. BREWER, of Jno.,
ADJUTANT GENERAL.

ORDNANCE OFFICE, }
WASHINGTON, Dec. 30th, 1859. }

GEN. N. BREWER, of Jno.,

Adjutant General, Md., Annapolis.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 28th inst., I have to state, that the department will readily undertake the alteration of flint lock to rifled muskets, and of flint locks to percussion, at the following rates, being the actual cost of the work, viz:

For altering flint lock to rifled muskets, \$2.70

For altering flint to percussion muskets, 1.00

The cost of transportation to and from the arsenal, where the work may be done, being paid by the State, and the cost of the work can either be charged to the State quota, to the extent of arms that may then be due, or special payment may be made for it by the State.