

REPORT

OF THE

ADJUTANT GENERAL.

ADJUTANT GENERALS OFFICE, }
ANNAPOLIS, December, 20th, 1832. }

The Governor of Maryland.

SIR,—Enclosed is the return of the Militia for the year 1832, by which your Excellency will see, there is but a small addition to the numerical strength. This arises from a cause, which will forever have the same effect, until the Legislatures effectually interferes. I am informed, by many of the officers, that it is quite impossible, under the present situation of the militia, to procure returns, and that returns, if they could now be properly made, would very much exceed the former. That there are hundreds, in the several Regimental and Battalion districts who never have been enrolled.

This certainly requires the attention of the constituted authorities, more especially at this crisis. If a draft was called for by the United States, under present circumstances it would be exceedingly difficult to comply with the demand. At least one half of those, subject to militia duty, is not enrolled, and of those who are enrolled, a considerable portion has passed the age limited for service, so that in case of a draft, the small portion now enrolled, who are within the ages required, would have to supply the whole compliment called for, out of their number, while those not enrolled, and perhaps the youngest and best calculated for hard service, are entirely exempt from a draft.

Your Excellency will, at once, see the necessity of some remedy for this. My more particular acquaintance with the affairs of this Department, and my duty under such circumstances, require that I should make known to your Excellency, this state of things, and my own opinions.