

State Department
Washington
30th December 1850

Sir.

The General Assembly of this State entertaining a high sense of the value of your military services and desiring to convey in a suitable manner its appreciation of your gallantry and conduct displayed on repeated and trying occasions during the late war with Great Britain, the various Indian Wars in which the Country had been engaged and more recently in the war with Mexico authorized me at its last session by an unanimous vote to procure a sword with appropriate devices and ornaments and to present it to you in the name of the State of Maryland.

Concerning most cordially as I do in the sentiments of the General Assembly as expressed in the resolution herewith forwarded and believing that for long and faithful service in the Army in peace and for bold exploits and daring valor in war, crowned with signal and brilliant successes, no soldier could be more entitled than yourself to this distinctive token of her appreciation, I have caused to be prepared the sword which accompanies this communication and which is now tendered for your acceptance as a tribute from your native State to your character as a man and to your gallantry as a soldier.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
Philip H. Thomas

To Capt Brig. Genl.
Benjamin Riley
U. S. Army
Washington
D. C.