

War Department
Washington, May 17th 1861

His Excellency

Thos. H. Hicks
Governor of Maryland.

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 13th and 14th inst, informing the Department that "in pursuance of the requisition of the President of the United States of the 15th day of April" you have issued orders to Brigadier General John R. Kenly of the Third Brigade, Maryland Militia, Baltimore, to take command of the four Regiments, M. M., which I (you) have ordered to be called out, to be mustered into the service of the United States."

It becomes my duty to inform you, in reply, that the United States Government has now no occasion for the services of the four Regiments of Militia for three months service, called for by the Proclamation of the President of the 15th of April, last, and does not desire said Regiments to be mustered into its service now.

It is proper that I should add, for your information, that the President has commissioned the Hon James Cooper, of Frederick, to accept the services of volunteers, to serve for three years, or during the war, to make up the quota assigned to Maryland under his second Proclamation, and that in pursuance of said Commission, he has already accepted a sufficient number of Companies to fill that quota & reported to this Department their readiness to be mustered into service.

I am Sir,

Very Respectfully

Simon Cameron
Secy of War

State of Maryland
Executive Chamber
Annapolis, May 30th 1861

To Col. E. R. Petherbridge,

Sir,

You are hereby directed to collect immediately all arms and accoutrements belonging to the State of Maryland and hold the same in safe keeping subject to my order.

Thos. H. Hicks

Governor of Maryland