

at Annapolis by an order that will leave no doubt on the subject. Assuming that I should be charged with this duty there is another matter connected with it which will require some action by the War Department, in reference to the present condition of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Maryland Regiment. — The officers of this Regiment were appointed by the General Government and subsequently commissioned by my predecessor Governor Hicks. Within the last month the Colonel of that Regiment (McCounell) has been removed, and applications are now being made not only for his place but also for the places of Lieut. Colonel and Major of the same Regiment upon the ground, as I understand, that they are not considered as suitable officers, or were not properly appointed. — This may be very true but as they were not appointed by me nor my predecessor, if I am to fill their places some action on the part of the Government to vacate them will be an indispensable preliminary. — Even in the case of McCounell who has been removed as I understand, no report to that effect has been received at the Executive Department of Maryland — and from what I learn from Genl. Cooper Commanding the Brigade, that Regiment is now full and it is important that its officers should be appointed with as little delay as possible. — In case therefore these appointments should be devolved on me, I should request not merely an order to that effect, but if they are to be appointed in the place of the present Lieut. Colonel and Major of that Regiment, it would be necessary that some order or action of the Department superseding them should also be forwarded to me.

I would take this occasion respectfully to suggest whether the several Regiments raised in Maryland and now stationed at different points in the State might not be more efficiently drilled and prepared for immediate service by congregating them together at some central point either Annapolis or Baltimore, instead of having them dispersed in detachments at different places which hardly require their presence.

I have the honor to be  
Very Respectfully,  
A. H. Bradford

War Department  
Washington City D.C.  
March 19<sup>th</sup> 1862

Governor:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> Inst. which has been referred to the Adjutant General for a report upon the organization of the Military forces of Maryland in the service of the United States. As soon as the report