

preliminaries to the execution of the order.

The acts of Congress bearing upon the subject of enrolling the Militia are the acts of 1792 and the recent act of July 7th 1862 — By the former various classes are exempt from enrollment, including all exempt by state laws — in our State a numerous class — and the enrollment is directed to be performed by certain specified officers — By the recent act it is provided that "the enrollment of the Militia shall in all cases include all able bodied male citizens between the ages of 18 and 45," thus making no exception of exemptions of any kind, and "in putting the act in execution the President is authorized to make all necessary rules and regulations" — Now does not the latter act, so far as the present enrollment is concerned, supersede the former, or are the two statutes being in pari materia, to be considered together, and executed in the manner and subject to the exceptions mentioned in the original act? — The language of the latter act is so explicit, that although it does not in terms expressly repeal the first, it seems to me it must have intended to modify it, and not only to leave to the President "the rules and regulations" for the details of the enrollment, but to embrace all citizens of the specified age, except so far as these rules and regulations should exempt them — If this view is correct the enrollment as it seems to me would be much more simple and efficacious, rendering it however necessary for the President to interpose some general rules for its execution and designating what persons, if any — are to be exempted from its operation

On reflecting upon this subject since the receipt of your order it seems to me that the most simple and efficacious, as well as the most expeditious process for its execution, will be to consider every election District in the several Counties of this State and every election precinct in the City of Baltimore, an enrollment District, and to appoint at once an enrolling officer for every such District, paying him according to the number of persons enrolled — say ten cents for each, and referring all questions touching citizenship, age, or physical infirmity to a General Superintendent or Assistant Adjutant General for the State, who shall have charge of the entire subject of the enrollment or subsequent drafts, determine all questions of exemption &c, and have the assistance in questions of physical ability of a Surgeon or Medical Inspector to be appointed for the purpose and each to receive such reasonable compensation as would be proper for officers of that description.

This, I think would be all the official machinery necessary for the proper execution of the enrollment and its cost for this State would not I believe exceed \$10,000 — I submit respectfully for your consideration

In the brief conversation I had with you on the subject a few days ago, I suggested that it