

and finding you with the Insignia of a Colonel and receiving no intimation that you had declined to muster in as such —

I never doubted of course that the place of Lieut. Colonel was vacant by your promotion, and afterwards filled it by the appointment of J. M. Alexander Esq. with the view of his being detailed to the duty of Provost Marshal General for the State. I was therefore much surprised and somewhat annoyed when on the 29th May last I received a letter from you dated on the 26th — signing yourself Lieut. Colonel, and advising me of the fact that from fear of being mustered out under the General Orders referring to reduced Regiments you had declined to muster in as Colonel, and still claimed to be the Lieut. Colonel of the Regiment, and called my attention then to the fact only because you had seen the appointment of Lt. Col. Alexander mentioned in the public papers —

But for the subsequent accidental resignation of Col. Alexander, this proceeding on your part would much have embarrassed me, and I could see no justification for the course you had taken in retaining both Commissions and leading me to suppose both in your letters and personal communications that you had fully assumed the office to which I had promoted you — and afterwards asserting your claims to the Lieut. Colonelcy.

The very day therefore on which I received your letter of 26th May — signed as Lt. Col. — and advising me that you still claimed and held that office, and had not mustered in as Colonel, I revoked the Colonel's Commission to you and on same day (29th May) advised you of the fact by letter addressed according to the directions which your letter contained, to Oakland Allegany County — And now I learn nearly three months after the revocation of your Colonel's Commission and your notification thereof, that you have notwithstanding mustered in as Colonel, and was so mustered as I understand only some three or four weeks ago.

Under these circumstances I must of course still consider that there is at present no Colonel of the 4th Regiment in Commission, and no vacancy in the post of its Lieut. Colonelcy.

I am very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.

A. W. Bradford

Cumberland August 20th 1863

To His Excellency A. W. Bradford
Governor of Maryland,
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Sir:

I am compelled although very reluctant to do so, to call your attention to the fact, that during the time I was in the Military Service of the United States I held first the position of Adjutant and afterwards the