

The Records from which calculations were made, as well as the calculations themselves, in determining the quota, are on file in this office. They are impartial and claimed to be entirely correct, but if an error should be discovered or pointed out in them it will be duly corrected.

I beg that you will do all in your power to enable the Officers acting under me to complete the Draft promptly, fairly & successfully.

The Actg. Asst. Provost Marshal General for your State, Major Jeffries, through whom the orders for the Draft are sent, will give you any further particulars you may desire.

I am, Sir, Very Resp^y.

Your Obedt. Servt.

James B. Fry

Pro. Marshal Genl.

State of Maryland

Executive Department

Annapolis October 10th 1863

Col. James B. Fry

Provost Marshal General

Sir:

I have received your letter of 8th Inst. informing me that orders had been sent to Boards of Enrollment - directing a draft to be made in the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Congressional Districts of our State.

I have since had a conference with Major Jeffries the Dep. Pro. Marshal for Maryland, who, I was in hopes would be able to furnish me with some of the data or calculations by which the number of the draft from these three Districts has been ascertained — It does not appear from any information possessed by Major Jeffries or myself that any credit whatever for the three years or six months volunteers, white or colored, has been made either to these Congressional Districts or to the Counties composing them, and the number ordered from these Districts would seem to confirm that view of the case — Indeed the number as compared with the previous draft is calculated to startle us —

The number of drafted men called for by the President's order of 1863 is I believe the same ordered in the draft of 1862, viz 300,000 — and yet the quota of the whole State under the 1862 draft was but six thousand, or less by upwards of two thousand, (and exclusive of the 50 per cent Margin) than is now claimed from three only of the five Congressional Districts in which the State is divided — And this too in the face of the fact that is indisputable, that the number now in the State subject to Military duty is far less than at the time of the former draft —

I would be obliged to you therefore for such information as will furnish to me the data or mode of calculation by which the results you have stated, have been reached.

After ascertaining the number with which the State is to be credited, another question arises as to the manner in which that credit is to be apportioned — On a conversation had with the