

State of Maryland  
Executive Department  
Annapolis May 6<sup>th</sup> 1864

To County Commissioners  
of Anne Arundel County  
(continued)

I desire to call your attention to the fact that I have not yet received the Report of the appointment and qualification of a Collector of the State Taxes in your County, as required by the 38<sup>th</sup> Section of the 5<sup>th</sup> Art. of the Code of Public General Laws, and that unless immediately furnished with that report it will be my duty under the requirements of the preceding section to make such appointment.

Yours Very Respectfully  
A. W. Bradford

Copies of the above sent same day, to County Commissioners of Cecil, Calvert Kent, Montgomery, Prince Georges, Howard, Somerset, Talbot, and Worcester Counties and the Mayor of Baltimore City.

State of Maryland  
Executive Department  
Annapolis May 9<sup>th</sup> 1864

Col. James B. Fry  
Proc. Mar. General

Dear Sir

The public announcement of the fact that the Draft in this State will take place in a few days induces me to address you upon the subject of the proper credit for colored troops mustered into service from this State, and which I feel assured we have not yet received. — The Rolls of these colored troops, except a few recently received for the purpose of the Bounties, have never been returned to the Department so that I have no means of stating officially or with entire accuracy the number of these troops that we have furnished, but from the best information I can obtain I feel satisfied that it will amount to from 7 to 8000 men. — Indeed the number according to the usual estimate of our citizens would largely exceed this, but I make all due allowance for those who have been actually lost to the State and their owners, but not actually mustered, nor perhaps technically speaking, a proper credit on quota. — Nevertheless the fact, universally admitted, that the State at the lowest calculation has lost of her laborers of this class yet least double the number of those actually mustered into the service, and lost them to find great means, by reason of the irregularities practiced by the recruiting officers, in taking off those absolutely unfit for military service, is a circumstance to be taken into account in assigning to the full credit of those who have actually entered the service.

In many of the Counties of our State, or complete has been drawn upon their agricultural labor that large portions of