Very respectfully, your obedient

C. B. McCollum

Major General U.S.A.

Col. McCary's reply dispatch, mentioned in the above letter, translated out of cipher and enclosed with the present letter of the same date, and is given as follows:

"I urge upon you to instantly make a positive and unconditional demand for an immediate draft of the additional troops you require. They will not volunteer now, and drafting is the only successful plan. The people will applaud such a course, rely upon it. I will be in Washington tomorrow. R. B. McCary."

In his final report made two years later (August 9, 1863—just after the draft riots in New York), McCollum makes no allusion to this matter. He concludes that the new levies were "recruited and pressed forward with unprecedented rapidity," though alleging delay in the supply of arms and equipment, as the reason for its prolonged movement which created "impatience" among the people. There was no occasion then for resorting to the extreme measure of conscription at that date, of course.