

Lumburg Va August 7th 1847.

To
Col Smith

Principal of the Military Institute Lexington Va

Having heard that my young friends & acquaintances
I Mr Stalnaker would apply for an appointment in the
Military Institute, I take great pleasure in bearing testimony to
his excellent general character. He is a young man of good
capacity - moral elevation & correct moral sentiment & feeling.
He has always manifested a great thirst for intellectual pursuits
& has made for one of his age considerable advances in the acquisition
of classical & mathematical knowledge. His father a worthy citizen
of our place, not feeling himself in a condition to meet the expenses
incident to a collegiate course, I am very sure that a more judicious
selection for the State could not be made. His future life would I am
confident reflect credit upon the Institute & his future usefulness be
an ornament to the State.

Very Respectfully

Wm B. Orwig Jr