

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1836.

AUGUSTA:
SMITH & ROBINSON,.....PRINTERS.

1836.

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

No. 2.

SENATE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for the consideration of the Legislature, the Annual Report of the Adjutant General.

ROBERT P. DUNLAP.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }
January 12, 1836. }

STATE OF MAINE.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
Augusta, December 31, 1835. }

His Excellency Robert P. Dunlap,
Governor and Commander in Chief.

SIR,

In obedience to the laws of the United States and of this State, I have the honor herewith to make return of the Militia of the State. A similar return will be made to the President of the United States.

Only nine of the sixteen Brigades have been returned this year, and these returns, as was the case last year, are very imperfect. Of more than six hundred Companies into which our Militia is divided, returns from two hundred and fifty six Companies only have been received; consequently it was found necessary to recur to former returns to supply the deficiency. The parts of the State from which the most complete Inspection returns have been received this year, are, the Counties of York, Cumberland, Lincoln, Oxford and Somerset, while none, or but very few, have been received from the Counties of Kennebec, Waldo, Hancock, Penobscot and Washington. From the third Division, embracing the whole of the County of Penobscot, where our population has increased more rapidly, probably, than in any other portion of the State, no returns have been received since 1831.

It will be perceived on comparing the return of this

with the one of last year, that the number of the Militia is about the same, but it is believed that a full return would show a much larger number.

It is important that measures be taken to insure more full returns in future. Withholding pay from officers upon whom the duty now devolves, has not had the effect desired. Adjutants in many cases make their returns to the Brigadier Generals, which are neglected to be returned to the office of the Adjutant General by the Brigade Majors. Consequently such Adjutants are under the necessity of procuring certificates that they have performed their part of duty before they can receive the compensation provided for by law, and this is often attended with delay and trouble, and sometimes with expense. If the law was so far altered as to require the Adjutants to make their returns directly to the office of the Adjutant General, it would insure a more full return, and would be quite as convenient for this department in making up the general return. This would relieve the Brigade Majors from much duty which is now entirely useless, and their returns would then be based upon their personal inspection at the reviews, which seems more in accordance with the spirit of the laws of the General Government. The evidence of the Adjutants having performed their duty would then be in the office of the Adjutant General, and they would not be subjected to delay in obtaining pay for their services. I have thought of no other alteration in the law, which in my opinion would insure more full returns, unless severe penalties should be required of all returning officers who neglect their duty, or unless an Inspector General should be appointed whose duty it should be to obtain all returns personally of the several returning officers in each Regiment and Battalion. This would be attended with

some additional expense, but would insure full returns from all Companies whose commanding officers do not neglect their duty of Inspection.

The appropriations by the last Legislature for Military purposes, and for which the Adjutant General was made accountable, were as follows, viz.

For the purchase of Musical Instruments,	\$500 00
For alteration and repair of Gun Carriages,	900 00
For flannel, match rope and Laboratory stores, and for transportation,	150 00
For repair of the State's Gun House in Brunswick,	75 00
For repair of the State's Gun House in Wiscasset,	50 00
For erecting a Gun House in Norridgewock,	200 00
And there was an appropriation in 1832 for erect- ing a Gun House in Eastport of	200 00

The sum appropriated for the purchase of musical instruments has been expended for that purpose, and the same sum will be necessary for the ensuing year.

The sum appropriated for alteration and repair of Gun carriages has been expended on the Artillery of Wiscasset, Bristol and Boothbay, belonging to the second Brigade of the fourth Division. In selecting the Artillery upon which to expend the annual appropriations for repairs and alteration, I have thought it important that the portion of this corps located on the sea-board, should be first attended to, and have acted accordingly. It is important that all our Artillery be altered and repaired, but as it has been determined to do only a portion each year, I could think of no better mode of selecting, than to take that part first, which, in case of invasion, would be best able to protect our coast. I deem it important that the sum of nine hundred dollars be appropriated for this object the coming year.

The appropriation for flannel, match rope and Laboratory stores, and for transportation, has answered the purpose intended, and a similar sum will answer the demands of the ensuing year.

The appropriation for the repair of the Gun House in Brunswick was insufficient to put the building in good condition. It was found necessary to move the building as it was not on the lot owned by the State, and the repairs were much more expensive than it was supposed they would be. In order to meet the expense already incurred beyond the sum appropriated, and to complete the necessary repairs, seventy dollars more will be required.

The sum of fifty dollars was thought sufficient to repair the Gun House at Wiscasset, which was the appropriation. I examined the building last spring for the purpose of having it repaired, and found it not worth repairing. It was in such a state of decay as to be entirely worthless as a Gun House. I therefore directed some trifling sum only to be expended, merely to shelter the property for one season. The building is also entirely too small, even if it was in good repair, to answer the purpose of a Gun House, although it covers all the land owned by the State. I would therefore recommend that the sum of two hundred dollars be appropriated for the erection of a Gun House in Wiscasset, provided an addition to the present lot sufficiently large for the purpose be procured, or some other suitable site be furnished, free of expense to the State. As it is probable that a suitable lot can be had in exchange for the one now belonging to the State, it is necessary that some person be authorized by the Legislature to convey the State's lot, in case an exchange should be effected.

A Gun House has been erected in Norridgewock, under

the immediate direction of the Hon. Drummond Farnsworth, which is reported to be of suitable dimensions and well built of good materials, for the sum appropriated.

The appropriation for a Gun House in Eastport, has been expended under the direction of Gen. Charles Peavey, who reports, that there has been erected "a two story building, finished. The upper story containing a hall for drill. The lower story for ordnance, equipments, &c. The building is well built and finished, and has cost the company five hundred dollars or more."

Accounts for all these expenditures have been audited and settled by the Governor and Council.

I have examined the Arsenal at Portland twice during the past year, and find that the Military Storekeeper has paid strict attention to the preservation of the public property under his charge. I have also examined the Arsenal at Bath and find that the public property there has been preserved from injury.

I received the past summer from the War Department of the General Government, being in pursuance of "An Act making provision for arming and equipping the whole body of the Militia of the United States," passed by Congress, April 23, 1808, the following arms, viz.

10 6 pounder Iron Guns,
 10 " Carriages, with implements, &c. complete,
 3 " Caissons.
 4 12 pounder Iron Guns.
 4 " Carriages, with implements, &c. complete.
 2 " Caissons.
 500 Hall's Rifles, and
 591 Muskets.

The amount of which as valued by the General Gov-

ernment, is twenty three thousand eight hundred ninety three dollars and eight cents.

This is the amount due this State for the four years previous to the first day of January last, nothing having been before received for those years.

The Arsenal at Portland including all the buildings is filled with public property, and it was found necessary on receiving the last arms from the United States, to store a portion of them in a building in the vicinity of the Arsenal. It is therefore necessary that measures be taken to provide suitable buildings for such part of the public property as is now out of the immediate possession of the military Storekeeper, and for such other property as will be received by the State from time to time of the General Government and elsewhere. Should it be deemed advisable to provide additional room at the site of the present Arsenal at Portland, a building one story high and perhaps twenty feet wide by sixty feet in length, would answer the present purpose, and such a building could probably be built for one thousand dollars. But it would in my opinion be better economy for the State to erect a building similar to the present large building, which is two stories in height, as the room will soon be wanted. If such an one is erected, the lower floor would answer for such of the Artillery and carriages as are now stored away from the Arsenal, and for a part which are now too much encumbering the lower floor of the present Arsenal, and the other floor would soon be required for muskets, and other arms; and is in fact now wanted, as the corresponding room in the present building is too much filled to be either convenient or *safe*, and a part of the arms now there must be removed, or be injured from want of proper attention. Such a building would probably cost from two thousand to twenty five hundred dollars.

It may be thought best when a new building for this purpose is erected, to locate it in some other section of the State, and this might be advisable. It would in many respects be more convenient in time of peace to have military depots in different parts of the State, although there might be a small increase of expense in taking care of the public property, and in case of war it would be of great importance to have a part of our public arms at other places than Portland. If the State should deem it necessary to erect another building for an Arsenal, I would respectfully suggest whether it would not be best to locate it either at Augusta or Bangor.

The military property belonging to the State is the same as reported last year, with the addition of Arms received from the General Government this year as before mentioned. The original cost of this property was probably not less than from three to four hundred thousand dollars.

The property in possession of the Artillery companies is in many cases, it is believed, sustaining injury from want of necessary examination, as mentioned in my report of last year.

There have been four Courts Martial held during the past year, one in each of the following Divisions, viz. the second, fourth, fifth and eighth; seven officers were tried at these Courts, five of whom were sentenced to be removed from office, one to be reprimanded in orders, and one was found not guilty. Such of the Pay Rolls of these Courts as have been received at this office will be presented to the Legislature for allowance.

From observation and extensive enquiry, I am led to believe that the present Militia Law is acceptable generally throughout the State, more so than any previous one. There is evidently an increased interest manifested for the

prosperity of the Militia, and a decided improvement in discipline. While the laws of the General Government require the enrolment of so large a portion of the community, it is impossible that our Militia should be so well disciplined as it would be if a smaller number only were instructed. The subject of amending the Militia Law in this particular, has been brought before Congress repeatedly, and it is probable that an alteration will be made before long. Should those only between the ages of twenty one and thirty years be enrolled, it would give a force sufficient for any purpose for which we should ever require a militia. This would also relieve a class of young men, minors, whose time is more valuable to them than at any other period of life, from the expense of arming and equipping themselves, as well as from the loss of time now required for military instruction. This would require only one third of the time or nine years enrolment instead of twenty seven years which is now required, and the number for this State, with our present population, would probably be about twenty thousand. But until Congress make some change in this respect, it is believed that any essential alteration in our present Militia Law would be injurious to the prosperity of the Militia. The President having called the attention of the National Legislature to this important subject, and the Secretary of War having strongly urged a revision of the present system, it can hardly be expected that Congress will rise without examining fully into the present defects, and passing the necessary laws to make our Militia such as public opinion and the present interesting state of our country require.

I have the honor to be with much respect,

Your obedient servant,

A. B. THOMPSON, *Adjutant General.*

ABSTRACT of the Annual Return of the Militia of the State of Maine for the year 1835.

	Major Generals.	Brigadier Generals.	Adjutant Generals.	Division Quarter Masters.	Division Inspector.	Division Advocates.	Aids-de-Camp.	Brigade Majors.	Brigade Quarter Masters.	Colonels.	Lt. Colonels.	Majors.	Adjutants.	Quarter Masters.	Pay Masters.	Chaplains.	Surgeons.	Surgeon's Mates.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Cornets.	Sergeant Majors.	Qr. Master Sergeants.	Musicians.	Buglers and Trumpeters.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Privates.	Total Commissioned Officers.	Total Non-Commissioned Officers, Musicians, and Privates.	AGGREGATE.	No. of Divisions.	No. of Brigades.	No. of Regiments.	No. of Battalions.	No. of Companies.				
GENERAL STAFF.	8	14	1	8	8	8	34	16	14																																
CAVALRY.										2	2	10	12	10	2	2	5	2	29	56		25	3	4		57	100	48	1,309	157	1,521	1,678			2	10	31				
ARTILLERY.										2	2	8	8	9	2	2	2	2	28	51			1	4	103		111	109	1,243	116	1,571	1,687			2	7	29				
INFANTRY.										49	49	51	55	52	53	40	47	44	399	416	411		49	48	1,640		1,585	1,023	26,240	1,666	30,585	32,251	8	16	55		447				
RIFLEMEN.																			26	27	26						103	100	989	79	1,316	1,395					28				
LIGHT INFANTRY.																			65	67	68						252	190	2,776	200	3,505	3,705					71				
AGGREGATE.	8	14	1	8	8	8	34	16	14	53	53	69	75	71	57	44	54	48	547	617	505	25	53	56	2,154	57	2,151	1,470	32,557	2,329	38,498	40,827	8	16	59	17	606				

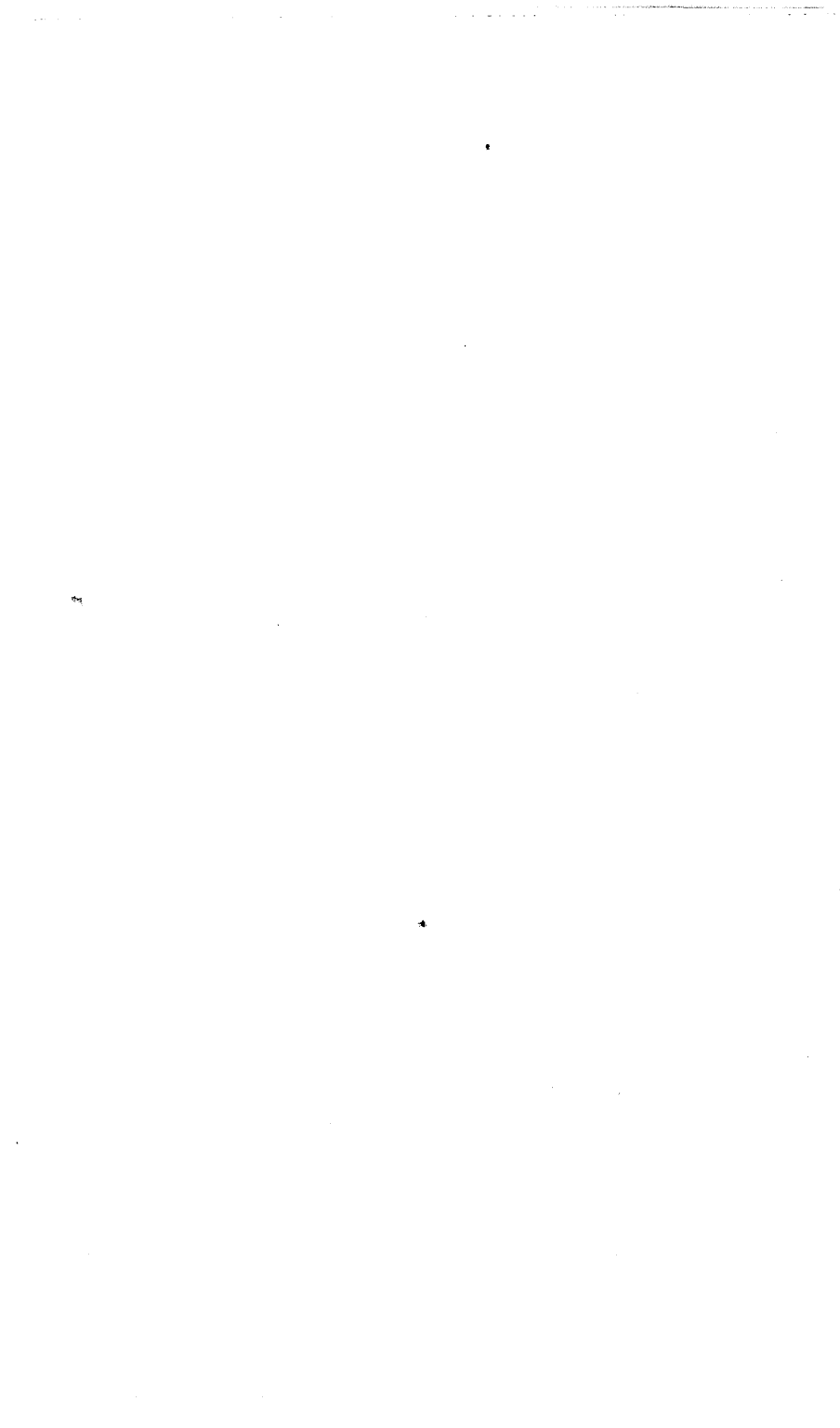
Remarks.

ABSTRACT—(CONTINUED.)
ARMS, ACCOUTREMENTS AND AMMUNITION.

		ORDNANCE AND ORDNANCE STORES.	
		BRASS.	IRON.
AGGREGATE.	2	12	12 Pounders.
In possession of the Troops.	2	12	6 Pounders.
In Arsenals.	8	8	4 Pounders.
	40	2	38 3 Pounders.
			Pounders.
			Pounders.
			Pounders.
			Pounders.
			Pounders.
	3	3	6 Inch Howitzers.
	3	3	} Eprovettes.
			Inch Howitzers.
	1	1	42 Pounders.
	4	4	32 Pounders.
	25	25	24 Pounders.
	6	6	18 Pounders.
	8	8	12 Pounders.
	5	5	9 Pounders.
	20	20	6 Pounders.
	5	5	4 Pounders.
	5	5	3 Pounders.
			Inch Howitzers.
			Inch Howitzers.
			Inch Howitzers.
	108	35	73 Sponges and Rammers.
	98	37	61 Ladies and Worms.
	352	176	176 Ricoles & Drag Ropes
	160	87	73 Trait Handspikes.
	76	40	36 Lead Aprons.
	120	38	82 Ammunition Boxes.
	35	9	26 Tumbrils or P. Carts.
	151	14	137 Sets of Harness.
	8,517	8,517	Rounds of Shot & Shells
			lbs. of Cannon Powder.
	25,433	9,210	16,223 Muskets.
	25,163	9,210	15,953 Bayonets.
	19,315	2,915	16,400 Cartridge Boxes and Belts.
	16,867	898	15,969 Bayonet Scabbards & Belts.
	16,126	16,126	Brushes and Picks.
	82,914	50,000	32,914 Spare Flints.
	19,981	19,981	Ball Cartridges.
	2,098	1,040	1,058 Rifles.
	1,708	1,040	668 Powder Horns.
	1,651	1,040	611 Pouches.
	111,600	111,600	Loose Balls.
			Pounds of Rifle Powder.
	1,344	350	994 Horseman's Pistols.
	2,188	850	1,338 Swords.
	2,180	850	1,330 Sword Scabbards and Belts.
	15,562	15,562	Knapsacks.
	75	8	67 Haversacks.
	532	20	512 Drums.
	432	20	412 Files.
	74	74	Bugles and Trumpets.

Adj. General's Office, Dec. 31, 1835.

A. B. THOMPSON, Adj. General of the Militia of the State of Maine.



STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, Jan. 12, 1836.

Ordered, that five hundred copies of the foregoing Communication and Report be printed for the use of the Legislature.

[Extract from the Journal.]

Attest,

WILLIAM TRAFTON, *Secretary.*