

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# DOCUMENTS

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## THE LEGISLATURE,

OF THE

## STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1837.

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

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1837.

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**REPORT**

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OF THE

**ADJUTANT GENERAL**

OF THE

**MILITIA OF MAINE,**

DECEMBER 31, 1836.

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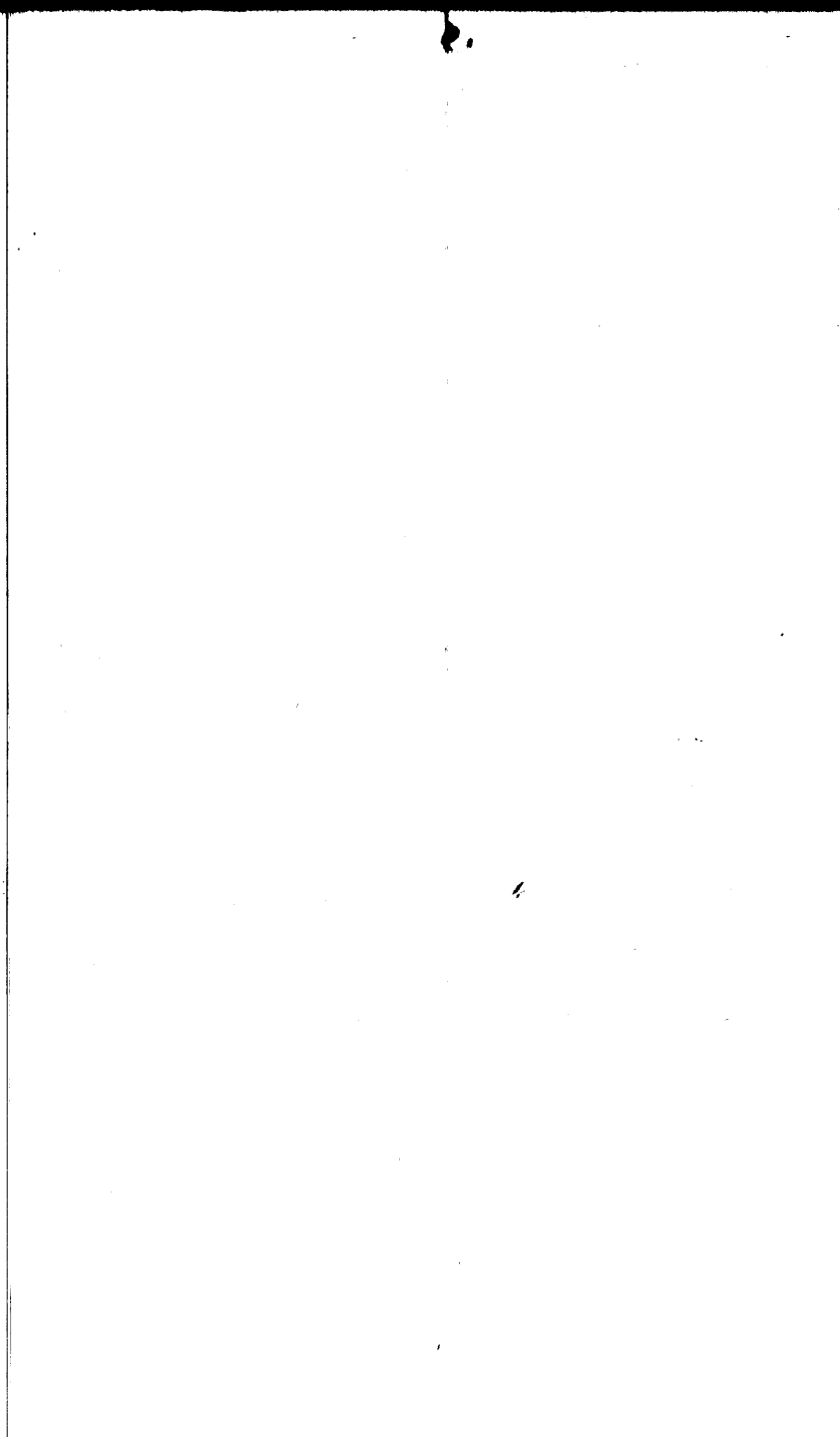
**Published agreeably to Resolve of March 22, 1836.**

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**AUGUSTA:**

**SMITH & ROBINSON, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.**

1836.



## STATE OF MAINE.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
*Augusta, Dec. 31, 1836.* }

*His Excellency* ROBERT P. DUNLAP, *Governor and  
 Commander in Chief.*

SIR:—Pursuant to the provisions of law, I have the honor herewith to make return of the Militia of the State. A duplicate thereof will be made to the President of the United States.

It will be perceived that the number of our Militia is now forty two thousand four hundred and sixty eight, viz:

Cavalry, one thousand six hundred and ninety	
one, . . . . .	1,691
Artillery, one thousand seven hundred and fifty	
one, . . . . .	1,751
Infantry, thirty three thousand five hundred and	
ninety seven, . . . . .	33,597
Light Infantry, three thousand nine hundred	
and twelve, . . . . .	3,912
Riflemen, one thousand five hundred and sev-	
enteen, . . . . .	1,517

TOTAL, . . . . .	42,468
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being an increase from the last return of one thousand six hundred and forty one, . . . . . 1,641

In 1835 returns were made by the Brigade Majors of forty five only of the Regiments of Infantry and Regiments and Battalions of Cavalry and Artillery. The last Legislature altered the law so far as to require Adjutants

to make their returns direct to the office of the Adjutant General, and the effect has been, that of the seventy nine Regiments and Battalions, sixty seven of them have been returned to this office the present year, although many of them are incomplete in consequence of the neglect of commanding officers of Companies; and of the six hundred and thirty six companies into which the Militia is divided, returns have been received from three hundred and seventy two. Two hundred and fifty six only were returned in 1835. Division Advocates have been directed to make enquiry into all cases of neglect on the part of Commanding Officers of Regiments and Battalions, and all such commanding officers were ordered to represent all commanding officers of companies who should have neglected their returns. Reports have been received from the several Division Advocates, from which it appears, that the neglect of the commanding officers of Regiments and Battalions in most cases, was in consequence of the officers not receiving the copy of the law of last winter, and the General Order relating to returns, issued March 18, 1836, both of which were transmitted from this office in due season, and there appears but few cases of intentional evasion of the requirements of law; but there are some instances where no satisfactory explanation or excuse have been received.

By the annexed table it will be seen that three hundred and seventy two companies only have been returned this year as before stated, and that the last returns from the remaining companies were received as follows, viz :

In 1835, eighty eight Companies,	.	.	.	86
" 1834, twenty nine	"	.	.	29
" 1833, eighteen	"	.	.	18
" 1832, thirty three	"	.	.	33
" 1831, thirty two	"	.	.	32

In 1830, twenty eight Companies,	28
" 1829, six	6
" 1828, three	3
" 1826, two	2
" 1825, two	2
" 1824, five	5
" 1822, two	2
and from sixteen Companies no returns have ever been received,	16

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making the whole number of Companies not re-  
turned this year, two hundred and sixty four, 264

By this table it will also be noticed that returns have been received from the several Divisions in nearly equal proportions, averaging about three fifths of the number of Companies, and that the neglect on the part of commanding officers of Companies has not been confined to any particular division or section of the State.

An inquiry has been instituted in all cases of neglect on the part of commanding officers of Companies, and where no satisfactory excuse is made, or cause assigned for deficiency of returns, the officers will be proceeded against as the law and the interest of the Militia would seem to require.

A larger number of Companies have been returned this year than in any former one since 1830, and it is believed that no change is necessary in the law relating to the subject. All officers are by this time acquainted with the alteration made by the law of 1836, and as commanding officers will be held accountable for a strict performance of this part of duty, it is expected that in future returns will generally be made, and in due season.

Fourteen of the sixteen Brigade Majors have made their Annual Brigade returns the present year, and from



these returns and their reports it is believed that the ANNUAL FIELD INSPECTION has been as thorough as in any former year.

The following appropriations for military purposes were made by the last Legislature and for the expenditure of which the Acting Quarter Master General was made accountable, viz :—

For alteration and repair of Gun Carriages,	\$900 00
For transportation, laboratory stores, &c.,	250 00
For the purchase of Musical Instruments,	550 00
For equipping three new Companies of Artillery in the eighth Division,	750 00
For the erection of a Gun house in Wiscasset,	200 00
For the erection of a Gun house in Bangor,	200 00
For the erection of a Gun house in Anson,	200 00
For the erection of a Gun house in Harmony,	200 00
For the erection of a Gun house in Wilton,	200 00
For finishing the Gun house in Eastport,	200 00
For finishing the repairs on the Gun house in Brunswick,	70 00
For repairing the Gun house in Paris,	50 00
For repairing the Gun House in East Machias,	50 00
For repairing the Gun house in Westbrook,	50 00
For repairing the Gun house in Brownfield,	75 00
For the purchase of a site and the erection of a State Arsenal in Bangor,	3,000 00

The sum appropriated for alteration and repair of Gun carriages, has been expended on the Artillery of Warren, in the second Brigade of the fourth Division, and of Westbrook, in the second Brigade of the fifth Division. Of the thirty-three Companies of Artillery, sixteen are armed and equipped as required by law and the system of

discipline ordered by the General Government. It is desirable that the equipments of the remaining Companies should be altered so as to enable them to practice the drill according to the present mode of instruction, and frequent and repeated calls therefor are made on this department. But should the course which has been adopted be continued, in a few years the demands of all our Artillery in this particular will have been answered. If the appropriation is continued the next year, it is in contemplation to expend the amount on the Artillery of East Machias, Eastport, and Calais, in the first Brigade of the seventh Division, that being considered the most exposed part of our coast where the Artillery has not been altered and repaired.

The sum allowed for transportation and laboratory stores has all been expended, and a small amount in addition has been required in consequence of the expense of transporting tents to volunteer Companies.

The sum assigned for the purchase of Musical Instruments has answered the purpose intended.

The three new Companies of Artillery in the eighth Division have been equipped, and there is a balance remaining of that appropriation, which will be wanted, with a small sum in addition, to equip a new Company in the first Brigade of the fourth Division. These four Companies have been armed with iron six pounder guns from the Arsenal.

Gun houses have been erected under the superintendence of agents appointed by me in the towns of Wiscasset, Anson, Harmony, and Wilton, and the several sums appropriated therefor have been paid.

The Gun house in Eastport has been finished under the direction of General Charles Peavy, and the amount allowed by the Legislature has been paid.

The Gun houses at Brunswick and Westbrook have been repaired for the sums appropriated, and the repairs of those at Paris and Brownfield have been made for a less sum than was assigned. The balance in these cases has been returned to the Treasury of the State.

No Gun house has been erected in Bangor the past year. The present site of the old one does not belong to the State, and the lot where the house formerly stood is not a suitable location. I was directed by the Legislature to dispose of the State's lot and procure another. But there is some doubt about the title to the land, and as the sum appropriated for the Gun house was entirely too small, it has been deemed advisable to omit all further proceedings until another year. This case suggests the enquiry whether the title to land on which most of our Gun houses are situated has ever been conveyed from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the State of Maine. If this has not been done it seems proper, in order to prevent difficulty hereafter, that measures should be taken to have the title perfect in the State. That Commonwealth would of course not object to making such transfer, but it may require Legislative action on the part of both States.

The sum ordered to be expended in the repair of the Gun house at East Machias has not been used. The agent appointed to expend the money concluded that it was not advisable to repair the present building, as it would not answer the purpose but for a short time. The amount has been refunded to the Treasury of the State. It will be necessary to erect a new house at that place before long.

I have not yet been able to obtain a suitable lot in Bangor on which to erect a State Arsenal, at a price which the sum appropriated would justify, and consequently

nothing has been expended of that appropriation. It is believed, however, that a lot can soon be procured which will answer the purpose. The estimate for this Arsenal was made in 1835, when the expense of building was considerably less than at present, and when it was expected that the location would be Augusta. As the expense of building has increased, and as the site will probably cost more in Bangor than in this town, the sum of one thousand dollars in addition to the present amount will be necessary to erect a suitable Arsenal in that city.

Accounts of nearly all the before mentioned expenditures have been audited and settled by the Governor and Council.

The following appropriations are deemed necessary for the ensuing year, viz:—

For alteration and repair of Gun Carriages,	\$900 00
For transportation and laboratory stores,	200 00
For purchase of Musical Instruments and Colors, . . . . .	600 00
For equipping a new Company of Artillery in the first Brigade of the fourth Division, in addition to the sum unexpended of the appropriation of 1836, for equipping new Companies of Artillery in the eight Division, . . . . .	100 00
For erecting a Gun House in Bangor in addition to the sum appropriated in 1836,	200 00
For erecting an Arsenal in Bangor in addition to the sum appropriated in 1836 (should the location remain unchanged,)	1,000 00
For erecting a Gun House in Danville, . . . . .	200 00

I have several times examined the Arsenal at Portland during the past season, and find that the Military Store Keeper has paid the best attention to the preservation of

the public property under his care, which the crowded state of the buildings would permit. The necessity for a new building stated in my report of last year, still exists, and it is highly desirable that another Arsenal should be erected during the ensuing year.

I have also visited the Arsenal at Bath, and have caused such of the public property there as required it, to be put in proper condition.

The public property in the Arsenals, with the exception of Iron Artillery furnished new Companies, and Field Tents, remains the same as reported last year. No arms have been received from the General Government since 1835. The State's proportion for the last two years of the annual appropriation by Congress for arming the Militia, is now due, and the amount has been ordered from the War Department in Hall's patent Rifles, which will be received in the course of the ensuing year.

There has been only one Court Martial held during the past year. One officer has been dismissed pursuant to the sentence of the Court.

Several complaints have been made and charges preferred against officers for various offences, including all the cases of neglect and refusal to make returns, in all of which summary inquiry has been ordered, and reports on many of them have been received. These cases will all be laid before you for your decision. It would seem proper in all cases where there is reason to suppose officers have intentionally, or from gross carelessness failed to perform their duty, that Courts should be promptly ordered, and that such officers if found guilty should be immediately dismissed from the service.

Commanding officers have in many cases been unable to ascertain the boundaries of their respective Companies, which has caused much trouble and expense, and in

some towns an entire neglect of military duty. An Act of the last Legislature required the Selectmen of the several towns to ascertain and define the limits of all Companies of Infantry in their respective towns, and make returns thereof to their Town Clerks and also to the office of the Adjutant General. Returns from Selectmen of their doings under that law have been received from most of the towns, and it is believed commanding officers of Companies will experience no further inconvenience in this particular.

By a Resolve of the last Legislature the Acting Quarter Master General was directed to deliver to each Company of Cavalry, Artillery, Light Infantry, and Riflemen, on application of the commanding officer, five field tents. Seventy one Companies have been furnished under that Resolve, making three hundred and fifty five tents which have been delivered from the Arsenal.

The number of Commissions issued the past year is eight hundred and ninety six, being more than in any former year. The number of officers discharged is four hundred and seventy eight.

There have been twenty new Companies ordered to be raised, and eight Companies have been disbanded.

I have attended a portion of the reviews the past season, and have noticed in several Regiments a decided improvement in discipline. The present Militia law is generally regarded with favor, although there are sections of the State where a compliance with its requirements is entirely disregarded. But in these places, it is believed, public opinion is opposed to the performance of Militia duty in any form, rather than to any particular provisions of the statute; and the same feeling which operates to prevent a performance of military duty under our present Militia System, would be likely to cause a disregard of the most

salutary requirements of our laws. It has been the opinion of many of our intelligent citizens, that until Congress shall have made a radical change in the law organizing the Militia, further encouragement ought to be given by our Legislature to the formation of volunteer Companies. There are many reasons in support of this course. Our volunteer corps are composed of the younger and more active portion of our citizens, and are generally under a much higher state of discipline than the local Infantry, and consequently would better answer the purposes for which our Militia are wanted, should they be called to active duty. But by selecting from the local Companies a portion of their best men, it necessarily serves to render the standing Companies proportionally less effective, and in this way it is feared that any further inducement to form volunteer Companies would be prejudicial to the body of the Militia.

Exempting Enginemen from the performance of military duty, has caused much injury to the Militia in many parts of the State. In our cities and large towns the number taken for the fire department has been so great, and has reduced the local companies to that extent, that it is found difficult to obtain suitable officers for those Companies, or to organize or maintain volunteer corps. I do not perceive any necessary connexion between the performance of military duty, and the protection of persons and property from suffering and loss by fire. Should the law exempting Enginemen from the performance of military duty be repealed, and some other method adopted to obtain the service of men in extinguishing fires, I am of opinion that it would restore to the Militia a highly valuable class of citizens whose services there, would have the best effect upon its interests, and whose places would be supplied in the fire department by those who would be

quite as competent to perform that service, and whose motives for rendering it would better insure its performance.

From the urgent appeal made by the President to the first session of the present Congress in favor of revising the acts for organizing, arming, and disciplining the Militia, and from the universally admitted defects in the present laws, it was confidently believed that the general government would have taken such measures to remedy the evils complained of before this time, as the importance of the subject seemed to demand. These defects have been more strikingly noticed the past season where the Militia have been called upon for active duty; and the subject being now before Congress it is possible that a revision of the laws may take place during the present session. Until such action by the general government, it is believed that any essential alteration in the Militia law by our Legislature would be inexpedient.

With much respect,

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. B. THOMPSON,

*Adjutant General.*



# ABSTRACT OF THE INSPECTION RETURN OF THE MILITIA OF THE STATE OF MAINE FOR THE YEAR 1836.

	Major Generals.	Brig. Generals.	Adjutants General.	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.	Surgeons' Mates.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Cornels.	Sergeant Majors.	Quarter Mas. Sergeants.	Musicians.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Privates.	Total Commissioned Officers.	Total Non-Commissioned Officers, Musicians, Artificers and Privates.	AGGREGATE.	No. of Divisions.	No. of Brigades.	No. of Regiments.	No. of Battalions.	No. of Companies.	REMARKS.	
General Staff,	8	14	1	8	8	8	33	16	15																				111		111							
Cavalry, . .										2	2	11	12	10	2	2	2	2	31	61		30	2	3	53	109	51	1306	167	1524	1691			2	10	36		
Artillery, . .										2	2	9	9	8	1	1		2	27	55			1	6	111	111	102	1304	116	1635	1751			2	9	33		
Infantry, . .										45	47	52	51	48	46	30	47	40	391	409	393		45	45	1676	1525	971	27625	1599	31887	33486	8	16	56		451		
Riflemen,																			26	29	28				131	105	102	1096	83	1434	1517					33		
Light Infantry,																			70	73	74				281	298	208	2908	217	3695	3912					83		
Aggregate, .	8	14	1	8	8	8	33	16	15	49	51	72	72	66	49	33	49	44	545	627	495	30	48	54	2252	2148	1434	34239	2293	40175	42468	8	16	60	19	636		

ABSTRACT.—[CONTINUED.]

## ARMS, ACCOUTREMENTS, AND AMMUNITION.

			ORDNANCE AND ORDNANCE STORES.																																																																																																																																																													
			BRASS.													IRON.																																																																																																																																																
Aggregate.	In Arsenal.	In possession of the troops.	2	2	12 Pounds.	16	16	6 Pounds.	22	22	4 Pounds.	24	22	3 Pounds.	3	3	6 Inch Howitzers.	3	3	{ 6 Inch Howitzers. Eprovetes.	1	1	42 Pounds.	4	4	32 Pounds.	25	25	24 Pounds.	6	6	18 Pounds.	8	8	12 Pounds.	5	5	9 Pounds.	20	18	2	6 Pounds.	5	5	4 Pounds.	5	5	3 Pounds.	107	35	72	Sponges and Rammers.	96	37	59	Ladles and Worms.	382	176	206	Bricoles and Drag Ropes.	166	87	79	Trail Handspikes.	81	40	41	Lead Aprons.	123	38	84	Ammunition Boxes.	33	9	29	Tumbrel Powder Carts	147	14	133	Sets of Harness.	8517	8517		Rounds of Shot & Shells.	24711	9210	15501	Muskets.	24463	9210	15253	Bayonets.	19137	2915	16222	Cartridge Boxes and Belts.	15901	898	15003	Bayonet Scabbards & Belts.	15752		15752	Brushes and Picks.	80897	50600	30897	Spare Flints.	19981	19981		Ball Cartridges.	2097	1040	1057	Rifles.	1660	1040	620	Powder Horns.	1717	1040	677	Pouches.	111600	111600		Loose Balls.	1399	350	1049	Horseman's Pistols.	2194	850	1344	Swords.	2165	850	1315	Sword Scabbards and Belts.	15361		15361	Knapsacks.	74	8	66	Haversacks.	621	20	601	Drums.	466	20	446	Fifes.	25		25	Bugles and Trumpets.

*Adjutant General's Office, thirty-first day of December, 1836.*

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

TABLE showing the date of the last INSPECTION RETURNS received from Companies.

			YEARS IN WHICH THE COMPANIES WERE LAST RETURNED.													Number of Companies never returned.	Whole Number of Companies.
Number of Division.	Number of Brigade.	Number of Regiment.	1836.	1835.	1834.	1833.	1832.	1831.	1830.	1829.	1828.	1826.	1825.	1824.	1822.		
1	1	1	7	1												8	
		2	9			1										10	
		3	9	2												11	
		4	7	1		1										9	
		Cavalry,	1			1		1								3	
		Artillery,	2													2	
	2	1	7					2								9	
		2	8									1				9	
		3						8								9	
		4	5					4	1							9	
		Cavalry,	1					1								1	
		Artillery,														1	
			56	4		3	16	1				1				81	
2	1	1	6		5	1										12	
		2	9		2					1						12	
		3	9													9	
		4	3	1	5		1									10	
		Cavalry,			4											4	
		Artillery,	3			1										4	
	2	1	6						6							12	
		2	4	1					4	1						11	
		3	2	1				4	2							9	
		Cavalry,									1					1	
		Artillery,								1						1	
			42	3	16	2	5		12	3	1					85	
3	1	1	6					4								10	
		2	12						7							21	
		3	5					5	1							12	
		4	3					1								10	
		5	4					5								9	
		Cavalry,	1					2								3	
		Artillery,	2					1								3	
	2	1	3	2				4						1		11	
		2	5	3				3				1				11	
		3	4	3				1								9	
		Cavalry,	3													3	
			48	8				26	8		2	1	2	1	2	102	
4	1	1	7		1	1										9	
		2	11		1											13	
		3	10													10	
		4	9													9	
		Cavalry,	2												1	3	
		Artillery,	3													3	
	2	1	4	3	1					1				1		11	
		2	5	3		2										10	
		3	1	6					1					1		11	
		4	7						3	1				1		12	
		Cavalry,	1						1								
		Artillery,															
			57	19	5	2			5	2							
5	1	1														10	
		2	11	9		1										12	

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