

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1847.

AUGUSTA:

Wm. T. JOHNSON,.....PRINTER TO THE STATE

1848.

REPORT
OF THE
ADJUTANT GENERAL

OF THE
MILITIA OF MAINE,

MAY 18, 1847.

~~~~~  
Published agreeably to Resolve of March 24, 1843.  
~~~~~

AUGUSTA:
WM. T. JOHNSON,.....PRINTER TO THE STATE.

~~~~~  
1847.



# STATE OF MAINE.

---

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
Augusta, May 18, 1847. }

His Excellency, JOHN W. DANA,

*Governor and Commander-in-Chief,*

SIR:—By the law of the United States, I am required, as Adjutant General of Maine, annually to report the number and condition of the military force of our State. So few and imperfect are the returns which have been received at this office the present season, I can only report our militia in a condition of lamentable depression, and rapidly tending to utter disbandment, and this too, when our country is maintaining a sanguinary war with another power, and the services of our soldiery are liable to be called for at any moment.

The existing militia law of our State, for all practical purposes, has become a dead letter. There is not vitality in it sufficient to maintain any thing like a reliable military organization. A law so impotent in its operation, so universally disregarded and contemned, should not, as it appears to me, longer disgrace our statute books.

The honor of our State demands some prompt and efficient legislative enactment upon this subject. I can only repeat to you, and through you to the Legislature of our State, my convictions, strengthened as they have been by the hostile character of our relations with a sister republic, of the necessity of a well organized military force.

In my annual reports for several years, I have given my views in relation to the importance of reviving to some extent the military force of our State, and of making it what it should be, and really

is, when properly fostered, the strong arm of our government. I have recommended on several occasions to the consideration of our Legislature, a system based on the voluntary service of our soldiery ; such a system would at least, insure the maintenance of a military organization at all times, and furnish a small but effective force to meet all ordinary emergencies that might arise in our State, and above all, would keep alive that martial spirit among our citizens, which constitutes the chief element of an efficient soldiery.

The appropriations made for military purposes, at the last session of the Legislature, have, to the extent deemed necessary, been economically expended, and the accounts of the Acting Quartermaster-General, have been audited and settled by the Executive Council, and the balance unexpended paid over to the Treasurer of State.

The public property in our State arsenals has been put in a good condition of preservation the past season. The amount of this property in the arsenals at Portland and Bangor, at a fair estimate, would exceed \$225,000. To keep it from deteriorating in value, requires annually the expenditure of considerable labor, involving the necessity of an appropriation by the Legislature. This property consists partly of artillery guns of different calibre, and of 1353 rifles, and 9871 muskets. The quota of arms to which our State is entitled from the general government, the cash value of which may be estimated at \$6,000, has been withheld the present season.

There are upwards of 40 artillery gun houses in the State, containing public property that may be valued at \$50,000. It is found exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, in the present state of our military institution, to keep these buildings from dilapidation, and the property deposited in them from exposure.

I have the honor to remain,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

ALFRED REDINGTON,

*Adjutant General.*

## APPENDIX.

---

ON the 13th day of May last, an act of Congress was passed providing for the prosecution of the war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico. In carrying out the objects of that act, the Secretary of War, on the 19th of May, addressed to the Governor of this State, the following letter :

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 19, 1847.

Sir :—I have the honor to enclose a copy of an act of Congress, authorizing the President to accept the services of volunteers.

It will be perceived that all the officers with volunteers taken into the service of the United States, under this act, are to be appointed and commissioned in accordance with the laws of the State from which they are taken ; and that the volunteers received into the service are to have the organization of the army of the United States. For this exact organization, so far as it relates to companies and regiments, please see the memorandum appended to the law herewith, to both of which particular attention is requested. Under the discretion allowed him, the President has decided that the number of privates in all volunteer companies shall be limited to 64.

On the part of the President I have to request your Excellency to cause to be enrolled, and held in readiness for muster into the service of the United States, the following volunteer corps :

### ONE REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Due notice will be given to your Excellency when their services will be required, at which time an officer or officers of the army will be sent to muster them into service, at such place or places as may be designated, and when the inspecting and mustering officers

will be instructed to receive no man under the rank of commissioned officer, who is in years apparently over forty-five, or under eighteen, or who is not in physical strength and vigor.

It is respectfully suggested that public notice of these requirements of law may prevent much disappointment to the zealous and patriotic citizens of your State, multitudes of whom, the President cannot doubt, will be eager to enrol themselves.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,)

W. L. MARCY,

*Secretary of War.*

*His Excellency,* HUGH J. ANDERSON, }  
*Governor of Maine, Augusta, Maine,* }

---

MEMORANDUM of the organization of Volunteer Corps under the act of 13th of May, 1846.

---

A company of Cavalry or mounted men will consist of—

- 1 Captain,
- 1 First Lieutenant,
- 1 Second Lieutenant,
- 4 Sergeants,
- 4 Corporals,
- 2 Buglers,
- 1 Farrier and blacksmith,
- 64 Privates, as established by order of the President.

A regiment of Cavalry or mounted men, will consist of—

- |                              |   |                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Field and Staff<br>Officers. | { | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Colonel,</li> <li>1 Lieutenant-Colonel,</li> <li>1 Major,</li> <li>1 Adjutant, (a Lieutenant in addition to the Lieutenant of the corps.)</li> </ul> |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



|                            |   |                                                            |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Non-commissioned<br>Staff. | { | 1 Sergeant Major,                                          |
|                            |   | 1 Quartermaster Sergeant,                                  |
|                            |   | 1 Principal musician,                                      |
|                            |   | 2 Chief buglers, and                                       |
|                            |   | 10 Companies, for the organization of which,<br>see above. |

A company of Infantry (or Riflemen,) will consist of—

- 1 Captain,
- 1 First Lieutenant,
- 1 Second Lieutenant,
- 4 Sergeants,
- 4 Corporals,
- 2 Musicians,
- 64 Privates.

A regiment of Infantry (or Riflemen,) will consist of—

|                              |   |                                                                               |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Field and Staff<br>Officers. | { | 1 Colonel,                                                                    |
|                              |   | 1 Lieutenant Colonel,                                                         |
|                              |   | 1 Major,                                                                      |
|                              |   | 1 Adjutant, (a Lieutenant of one of the com-<br>panies, but not in addition.) |

|                            |   |                                                                    |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Non-commissioned<br>Staff. | { | 1 Sergeant Major,                                                  |
|                            |   | 1 Quartermaster Sergeant,                                          |
|                            |   | 2 Principal musicians, and                                         |
|                            |   | 10 Companies, for the organization of which,<br>see the foregoing. |

On the receipt of this communication, His Excellency the Governor issued the proclamation hereto appended.

## STATE OF MAINE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
 Augusta, May 29, 1846. }

*To the citizens of Maine :*

The repeated and long continued efforts of the national government to effect an amicable settlement of the differences with the government of Mexico, have unfortunately proved unavailing ; and a direct and palpable act of hostility on the part of the Mexican forces, has led to the declaration by the Congress of the United States, "that by an act of the republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that government and the United States."

In order that the war in which we have been thus unexpectedly involved, may be carried on with the energy and vigor which is necessary to bring it to a speedy conclusion, the President of the United States has been authorized by an act of Congress, passed upon the 13th of the present month, "to employ the militia, and the naval and military forces of the United States, and accept the services of any number of volunteers not exceeding fifty thousand men, who may offer their services."

Under the authority of this act, a communication has been addressed to me by the Secretary of War, requesting that I would cause to be enrolled, and held in readiness for muster into the service of the United States,—

### ONE REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

In cheerful compliance with this requisition from the President, and not doubting that the patriotic citizens of this State will promptly respond to the call of the general government for aid in defending any portion of its territory, I hereby invite the services of volunteers in such numbers as may be necessary to furnish the complement required.

The brilliant and decisive victories which have been already obtained by the forces of the United States, have fully demonstrated the supremacy of our arms. It is hoped that a vigorous

prosecution of the existing contest will lead to the acceptance, on the part of the government of Mexico, of the moderate and liberal terms, by the proffer of which, the government and people of the United States have endeavored to avert the alternative of war. To those who desire to enrol themselves under this call, a reference to the subjoined general order from head quarters, will afford the necessary information.

(Signed,) H. J. ANDERSON, *Governor*  
of the *State of Maine*.

## STATE OF MAINE.

---

HEAD QUARTERS, *Augusta,* }  
*May 29, 1846.* }

### GENERAL ORDER.

In pursuance of the foregoing requisition, the Commander-in-chief calls upon the citizens of the State of Maine, for a volunteer corps, of one regiment of Infantry.

The regiment will consist of—

- 10 Companies,
- 1 Colonel,
- 1 Lieutenant Colonel,
- 1 Major,
- 1 Adjutant, (a Lieutenant of one of the companies,)
- 1 Sergeant Major,
- 1 Quarter Sergeant,
- 2 Principal musicians.

The companies will consist each of—

- 1 Captain,
- 1 First Lieutenant,
- 1 Second Lieutenant,
- 4 Sergeants,
- 4 Corporals,
- 2 Musicians,
- 64 Privates.

The Commander-in-chief invites those who are willing to tender their services to the their country, to make immediate returns by companies to the office of the Adjutant General. Those wishing to form new companies, will also forward their petitions to the office of the Adjutant General, that orders may issue forthwith for their organization.

As soon as the requisite number of companies shall have been organized, notice will be given of the time and place for the election of regimental officers in the mode prescribed by law.

None but able bodied men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, under the rank of commissioned officers, will be received. Volunteers will be armed and equipped at the expense of the United States. Due notice will be given when their services may be required, and when required, an officer of the United States army will be sent to muster them into service, at such time and place as may be designated.

Maine, although distant from the scene of conflict, will be as prompt as any of her sister States in repelling the forces of the invader. Her patriotic citizens will be as ready to vindicate American rights upon the Rio Grande, as upon their own immediate territory. Their love of country knows no section, but embraces the entire boundaries of the republic. The Commander-in-chief relies with the fullest confidence upon the prompt compliance with the requisition of the President of the United States.

By the Commander-in-chief,

(Signed,)

ALFRED REDINGTON,

*Adjutant General.*

To aid in fulfilling the requisition made by the general government upon our State, a resolve was passed by the Legislature appropriating twenty thousand dollars, to be used, if necessary, by the Governor and Council, for that purpose. By an order of the Legislature, I was called upon by the Executive to furnish an estimate of the probable expense of raising and officering the regiment of volunteers. The aggregate of the different items enumerated,

including a bounty to the volunteers of \$8 each, which I reported to the Governor, and by him was transmitted to the Legislature, amounted to the sum of \$9,543.

Immediately after the publication of the proclamation and general order, efficient persons in different parts of the State were commissioned to raise companies of volunteers. Directions, with blank forms of enrolment were furnished them, and they were required as soon as the requisite number of men had enrolled themselves, to report forthwith to this office. More than thirty recruiting officers were appointed during the season, with authority to raise companies. In some sections of the State it was found impossible to obtain volunteers, while in other sections, full companies were raised and organized with the greatest promptitude. The ten companies composing the regiment, have all been organized, and the general government officially informed of the fact. All but two companies of the regiment were raised last fall, when a suspension of enlistments took place, in consequence of the general belief that the services of our volunteers would not be required. In the spring, when the aspect of things had changed, and a call for our regiment was expected, the other two companies were readily filled. The regiment would have been raised without scarcely any delay, had the volunteers been mustered into service on enlistment, or had they been assured their services would sooner or later been called for. The whole expense of raising and organizing the regiment, embracing a bounty of \$5 to each volunteer, amounts to \$6,577 19.

The following are the officers elected to the command of the several companies, viz. :

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |   |                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------|
| <p>COMPANY A.—John H. Morrill, Bangor, <i>Captain</i>,<br/>         John H. Bryant, Bangor, <i>First Lieutenant</i>,<br/>         John B. Williams, Bangor, <i>Second Lieutenant</i>.</p>                                 | } | <p>Services tendered, June 3, 1846.</p> |
| <p>COMPANY B.—John M'Cluskey, Houlton, <i>Captain</i>,<br/>         Hugh Alexander, Linneus, <i>1st Lieutenant</i>,<br/>         Oswald McBrien, Houlton, <i>2d Lieutenant</i>.<br/>         Organized July 30, 1846.</p> |   |                                         |

- COMPANY C.**—Moses Goodwin, Jr., Shapleigh, *Captain*.  
 Charles E. Weld, Sanford, *1st Lieutenant*.  
 Samuel S. Thing, Sanford, *2d Lieutenant*.  
 Organized, August 7, 1846.
- COMPANY D.**—Charles N. Bodfish, Gardiner, *Captain*.  
 Thomas H. Crosby, Norridgewock, *1st Lieutenant*.  
 Lewis Cross, Solon, *2d Lieutenant*.  
 Organized, August 24, 1846.
- COMPANY E.**—Jabez T. Pike, Eastport, *Captain*.  
 Alexander Morrow, Eastport, *1st Lieutenant*.  
 Nathaniel F. Swett, do. *2d Lieutenant*.  
 Organized, Sept. 12, 1846.
- COMPANY F.**—George W. Cummings, Bangor, *Captain*.  
 James W. Thompson, Passadumkeag, *1st Lieut.*  
 James H. Burgess, Oldtown, *2d Lieutenant*.  
 Organized, Nov. 7, 1846.
- COMPANY G.**—Wendell P. Smith, Portland, *Captain*.  
 Nathan Baker, Portland, *1st Lieutenant*.  
 Charles F. Little, Portland, *2d Lieutenant*.  
 Organized, Nov. 28, 1846.
- COMPANY H.**—William Emery, 3d, Sanford, *Captain*.  
 Ezekiel R. Lord, Lebanon, *1st Lieutenant*.  
 Nathaniel Carpenter, Waterboro', *2d Lieutenant*.  
 Organized, Dec. 12, 1846.
- COMPANY I.**—James O McIntire, Cornish, *Captain*.  
 Tristram Holmes, Limington, *1st Lieutenant*.  
 William Row, Lyman, *2d Lieutenant*.  
 Organized, March 13, 1847.
- COMPANY K.**—Moses H. Young, Belfast, *Captain*.  
 Jesse Nutting, Parkman, *1st Lieutenant*.  
 Edward P. Blood, Ellsworth, *2d Lieutenant*.  
 Organized, April 9, 1847.

I have received communications from several of the officers, expressive of a strong desire to enter the service of their country against Mexico. From a personal knowledge I have of many of them, I know them to be among the most intelligent and efficient men in our State. Should they with their companies be called into service, they will be sure to honor their commands, and prove themselves worthy representatives of the valor of our patriotic State.

ALFRED REDINGTON,

*Adjutant General.*

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
Augusta, May 13, 1847. }