

Furnishing
arms, &c.

authorize the adjutant general to furnish with the necessary arms and equipments, such companies of cavalry, artillery and infantry, when duly organized under this law, as he may deem necessary for the proper enforcement of the laws; and the commanding officer of each company shall give a good and sufficient bond to the state of Maryland, to be approved by the adjutant general, for the safe keeping and return of such arms and equipments, which shall remain and continue to be the property of the state, to be used for military purposes only, and which shall be returned to the state when called for by the commander-in-chief; *provided*, however, that all arms, ammunition, equipments, or other supplies directed to be furnished by the governor under the provisions of this act, shall be so furnished by contracts made with the lowest responsible bidder, upon public notice, and the officer making such contracts shall certify the account with explicit vouchers, and transmit the same, countersigned and approved by the governor, to the comptroller, for final settlement, in the mode and manner prescribed in the constitution for the audit and payment of claims against the state.

Bond for safe
keeping.

Proviso.

Arms, &c, to
be furnished
by contract.

Officers to ac-
count for prop-
erty

14. Any officer receiving arms and equipments, or other public property for military use, shall be accountable for the same, and shall not be discharged from his obligations therefor, until he has properly accounted for said arms and equipments or other property, either by receipt from his successor in command, or some other officer authorized to receive the same for the articles received by him, in good order and condition, reasonable use and wear excepted, or by satisfactory proof to the adjutant general that any article not so accounted for has been properly expended in the service, or defaced, injured, lost, or destroyed, without any default or neglect on his part; and if lost, defaced or destroyed through the misconduct of any person, that reasonable efforts have been made by him to recover or prosecute for the same; and it shall be the duty of the adjutant general to