

The militia, to be ready for service, must be enrolled, and this can only be done by the interposition of the Legislature. To pass laws for the regulation of militia, which is not enrolled, is quite absurd. Some expense will, of course, arise from a new enrollment, as it cannot be expected that those who labour for the public are to do it without compensation. The advantages resulting from this enrollment must be evident. In the first place, the whole efficient force of the state is placed within the control of the proper authorities, and next, the state will be enabled to draw upon the United States for its *full* portion of arms.

I, last year, reported to your Excellency, the partial success of an application to the United States for the correction of an error, in the apportionment of arms to the state of Maryland from the year, 1806, to 1826. The correction was made for the period between 1816 and 1826, but no correction was made from 1808 to 1816. The reason then assigned, by the officer of the Ordnance Department, was that *he* was not the proper officer to correct for that period. Since then letters have been addressed to the War Department, upon the subject, but no answer is yet received.

I have examined the armoury, as required by law, and find all such arms, &c. as are fit for service, in a proper condition to be used upon a sudden call. There is also a considerable number which might, at a small expense be made serviceable. I take leave to call your attention to a part of the armoury, where some of the arms have been, in a small degree, defaced in consequence of a leak in the roof which may, if not remedied, do considerable injury.

The arms required by the resolution of the Executive, of June 14th, 1832, have been obtained. For twenty rifles there is a receipt, from the armourer at Frederick, filed in this Department. Sixty muskets are in the hands of Capt. William Small, of Frederick, for which his receipt is filed. The balance required by the order, have been receipted for and are now remaining at the Arsenal, Washington, as I am informed by General Worthington.

All the articles in the armouries, composed of leather, are decaying for want of oiling, and all the iron articles which want repair, are becoming more and more useless. Copies of the reports of the several armourers are sent in separately, that your Excellency may know the exact state of each armoury.