

Though not required of them by the Law, they laudably think necessary from their conscience and the nature of the public service they are engaged in; to those officers the Law has given no salary or compensation for any services they perform, or expences they may incur in the execution of their military duty. and the Executive have never yet thought themselves justified in making any reimbursement.

The Adjutant General stands on a different ground, like other officers he is appointed by the Government, but has a salary annexed to his office which in the opinion of the Legislature was competent to the duty - he is the only military officer who is paid in any manner for his services, and in my opinion any principle which could justify the Executive in advancing any money to the Adjutant General for the present purpose, would also justify, and in some degree impose an obligation on the Council to reimburse other officers for expences which they have or may incur in their laudable exertions to do their duty as military men.

I therefore think that the Adjutant General ought not to be dispatched on the contemplated purpose, and that no money ought to be advanced to him on that account.

My opinion and advice is, that new orders should issue to the Major Generals who have not yet completed their Returns directing them to do it, or to assign the causes which prevent them. No orders have yet issued from the Commander in Chief except to the Major Generals. The inferior officers have not received any orders from him, nor does it appear from any thing before us at present that they are in default. I think therefore it would be most consistent with propriety, that the orders should go to the superior officers. and I feel confident that they will give immediate answers to the Commander in Chief specifying the particular causes which have prevented a compliance with former orders. We then shall have some data to act on, and such steps can then be taken as our constitutional powers will warrant.

On the third question submitted by the Governor. My opinion is that the arms ought to be repaired if their condition will justify. but as the far greater number are not yet collected, it is at present impossible to say whether they can be repaired to advantage. I advise an immediate reparation of those now in possession of the State, which on examination may be found worth the expence.

Ordered by the Governor that the Treasurer of the Western Shore, *Arthur Tappan*
Pury Benson for forty five pounds for six months having been paid the 1st of
last.