

actually expended for such materials and labor, and pay him five dollars per day for his own services. It was also agreed that three thousand dollars should be advanced as the repairs progressed, and that the balance remaining due with interest should be paid, if not sooner, immediately after the termination of the ensuing session of the Legislature. Under this contract, Mr. Dushane commenced the work, and in as short a time as possible, completed it in the most satisfactory manner, placing the building it is believed in a state of security against further danger, and at a cost of three thousand six hundred and twenty four dollars and ninety cents. Of that sum three thousand dollars has been paid from the contingent fund, leaving the balance to be provided for by the Legislature, and it is recommended, that, in the passage of a law or resolution for that purpose provision should be made for charging the whole expense incurred to the account of the tobacco fund.

After consultation with the Attorney General, and under the advice of that officer, I directed suit to be instituted against the contractor for the erection of the Warehouse and the surties in his bond, for the recovery of damages sustained by the State in consequence of his failure to perform the contract according to its terms and specifications, and, I am informed that the case will be tried and decided during the winter term of Baltimore County Court.

In the month of March 1844 a set of balances intended for the adjustment of standard weights and capacity measures, was received for the use of this State from the United States. No suitable place of deposit having been provided for them, by the Legislature, they were, from necessity, temporarily placed without being unpacked, in one of the committee rooms of the House of Delegates where they now remain. By resolution N^o 54, of December session 1842, the Governor was authorized and directed to distribute to the Judges and Commissioners of the several counties of the State, each, one standard of the different kinds of weights and measures to be received from the United States.

Under the authority of this resolution, copies of the standard yard measure, were prepared at considerable expense, by John H. Alexander, the Agent of this State appointed for that purpose, and have since been distributed under an order of my immediate predecessor. By resolution N^o 38 of December session 1845, the Governor was directed to settle Mr. Alexander's account, and all further proceedings under the first named resolution were ordered to be suspended until the further action of the General Assembly. In the absence of additional legislation, no suitable depository for the balances now in the possession of the State can be provided nor can standard copies be made for distribution. A circular letter of Professor Bache, United States Superintendent of weights and measures, descriptive of the balances, accompanied with a report from that officer, and a drawing of a building appropriate for their preservation and use is herewith transmitted.

The laws for the government of the militia of the State are wholly inefficient, and that important branch of the public service is so entirely disorganized, that there is not only no enrolment of those liable to military service but the bands of the brigade, regimental and company officers, are for the most part unascertained and unknown. The resolutions of the last session declaring the laws regulating the militia and militia training

(to be)