

and defective system; menaced as we are from a hostile
brave intelligent and enterprising nation, this subject
is all important, and in the deliberations of the Legis-
lature, all others ought to yield to it, as of inferior moment.
attached to this subject is the condition of our arsenals.
Their present state and the conduct of past Legislatures
would induce a belief, that they really considered themselves
as exempt in all future times from the calamities of
war.

arms and ammunition are indispensable: in
times of profound peace, a certain proportion of both
are proper, it is peculiarly so now. and while it is
possible that our altars or any portion of our social
happiness, may in any degree depend on these
things, no rational man, it is hoped, can doubt what
course to pursue.

It appears important that the earliest and most
unremitted attention of the Legislature should be
bestowed on these subjects and supply of both
speedily procured.

Expenditures on these articles are not lost, they are
of a durable nature; and if from a display of animated
and united Councils, together with vigorous preparation
for war, we should fortunately escape the present
desolating scene, which is laying waste the fairest
portion of Europe, still they will be usefull on future
occasions, and will remain a standing monument how
much the peace and safety of a Country depend on a
prepared condition for war.

It was greatly desired by the Executive, to complete
the Quota of men under the late call of the President
of the United States. orders from the Commander in
chief before I came into office, and since, have been
often but ineffectually repeated. It was finally