

we have the honour to send enclosed a statement showing the number of muskets in the respective
Armouries that are fit for use, the number that want cleaning and repairing, and also the amount of
Salary allowed each Armourer. It is proper to remark that the muskets reported to want cleaning, are
a part of those that were in the hands of the Militia during the late war, and from their bad condition
would cost a considerable sum to put them in order; and that it is not the duty of the Armourers to
for their present salaries. When the muskets are once put in order it is the duty of the Armourers to
keep them so. The Executive have loaned within the year fourteen hundred and sixty eight stands of
Muskets to sundry Militia companies (who had previously uniformed themselves) taking Bonds with
security from the officers, conditioned for their return in good order to the State when required to do so
by the proper authority: These arms were generally selected from the uncleaned ones and have been
put in order at the expense of those to whom they were loaned. The greater part of the arms that are
now in the public Armories have been lately repaired and cleaned at a considerable expense and it
seem to be wrong to loan them out again unless on occasions of pressing necessity. By the 39th Section of
the Militia law passed in eighteen hundred and eleven chapter 162, the Governor and Council have
discretion as to loaning the arms when the conditions of the law are complied with. It is therefore
suggested to the wisdom of the Legislature whether it would not be proper that the law should be so far
amended as to permit the Executive to loan none but the uncleaned ones. There are now in the hands
of the Militia nine thousand four hundred and eighty eight stands of Musket that were put into their
hands previous to and during the late war. It would be proper to take some order respecting them
without loss of time.

I have the honour to be with respect

Your Obedient Servant

To the Honourable
The Speaker of the House of Delegates

Samuel Stevens Junior

Gentlemen.

In Council Annapolis January 1st 1823

The enclosed Report has just been received from the Commission appointed