

construction to the law, as he believes right - The high respect
I have for his judgment will make me fully satisfied with his
decisions & I could wish of course expect him to depart from estab-
lished precedents in similar cases, when he believes the prac-
tice to be in accordance with the true construction of the law.

Benjamin M. Egan Esq.
Secretary of the State of Md.

Yours Respectfully
John Pitt Lee
Jervis Spencer

Annapolis August 26th 1839.

Sir,

The attention of the Governor has been directed
to the empty condition of the Armory at this place and he is now
wishes to collect all the arms of the State not in actual service
You will be pleased therefore to cause to be collected all the arms
within the range of your command not in the possession of an
organized company of Militia or the Baltimore City Guards,
and when collected to hold them subject to the future orders
of the Governor. You will also be pleased to report the result of
your proceedings under this order on or before the first day of
October next and at your earliest convenience and to give
such information as you may deem material for enabling the
Governor to collect for the Armory whatever arms may not be in
actual use.

John Spear Smith
Major Gen: 3^d Division
M. M.

I have &c.
Benjamin M. Egan
Secretary of State.

State Department
Annapolis - Aug²² 1839.

Sir,

I have been directed by the Governor to obtain from you
a report of the number of arms accoutrements and ordnance,
the property of the State, that have been distributed from the
armory you have in charge and not in the possession of an
organized company of Militia: and particularly of the num-
ber that may have been so distributed to persons in Washing-
ton County

You will therefore be pleased to make such a report to
me at your earliest convenience for his information.
I am very Respectfully