

wholesome rule, whose laws emanate from the immediate representatives of the great body of the people, who justly hold an effectual check over them; and devoted as all are to the preservation of order, and due obedience to constitutional power, the danger of such "opposition to the laws," as would require the interposition of the military, is, happily, not to be anticipated. Nor does there seem to be any demand for a disciplined militia, except in the possible event of "insurrection" for which the volunteer corps that might be encouraged, in the cities and county towns, would be amply sufficient. The laws now in existence, imposing penalties for neglect of military duties, and upon those who are conscientiously scrupulous of performing such duties, having become in-operative, it is with great respect submitted, whether they ought not to be repealed, with such a substitution of volunteer corps, and such a general organization of the militia as would annually give a view of the effective force of the State, without the imposition of unnecessary and useless taxation upon the time and industry of the people.

The annual statement from the Treasurer will present to you an account of the finances of the State,—a complete view of the receipts and expenditures of the year. The department of the Treasury being entirely un-connected with the Executive, we can give no other account of its condition, than what we have received from the able officer who presides over it, and he has informed us that the deficit is not so great as it was the last year. That there should be any deficiency in the Treasury, is a matter deeply to be deplored, and is a subject that will press most importunately upon the attention of the Legislature. The public credit is invaluable and ought to be cherished and maintained with the most scrupulous care.

The necessary expenditures of the government, and those appropriations which the patriotic forethought of the Legislature may have considered as essential to the great interests of the State, ought to be provided for out of permanent funds. Nor is it less necessary in further contributions of every sort, that the General Assembly should direct proper sources of revenue to be provided in time to guard against pressure upon the ordinary income, and to avert as far as practicable, every thing like deficiency: to effect which a precautionary estimate of means would well precede every measure of additional appropriation. To the Legislative body exclusively, the constitution has prudently intrusted the appropriations of the public money, and most fortunately, to that branch of it whose members are annual-