

organized. What I mean by this is, that the men, subject to Militia duty, as they become of the age of 18 shall be enrolled by the respective Captains, and as they arrive at the age of 45, be stricken from the Captains lists, and an annual return of the actual strength of the company made to the Colonels, or Majors of extra battalions, whose duty it should be to make return thereof to the Adjutant Generals Department. This organization of the Militia would enable the state in cases of emergency within herself, or in case a draft was demanded by the United States, to order its quota to be drafted, at a moment without difficulty, and when drafted and placed under the regulations of actual service, the drilling of those men could be speedily accomplished. Another thing, this organization enabling the Adjutant General to make his annual returns gives to the state its proportion, upon the number returned, of the Arms &c. allowed to each state as its quota under the acts of Congress of 1808; and this is very important. Under the present state of things the annual return is obtained only by the individual exertions of the Adjutant General, and it has required a very considerable portion of his time and all his exertions. I received the appointment in 1817 when I found that no return had been made since 1810, and then was only 32,189. With all my efforts it was not increased until 1824, and it has increased every year since, as will be seen below. One thing I would remark, as appearing to me very essential, that is, the propriety of placing arms in the hands of a certain portion of the Militia of such districts as from their local, or other circumstances, might be thought to require them, and that the officer commanding, should at certain appointed periods, examine the state of the same and make annual return to this Department.

There was no return of the Militia from 1810 till 1824.

In	1810	it was	32,189
"	1824	"	32,915
"	1825	"	40,091
"	1826	"	41,636
"	1827	"	42,452
"	1828	"	43,812
"	1829	"	45,279

So that the state is now entitled to draw her quota of Arms &c. upon 45,269 instead of 32,189, upon which number she had been receiving them until the return of 1824: the quota has increased every year since.