

the other States of the Union have efficient militia systems, and recent enrollments. So great is the disadvantage resulting to the State from this fact, that there have been, during the last year, times when the Governor of the State, felt it his duty to reject the application of volunteer companies, for muskets and rifles, lest the State Armory would be so reduced as not to leave a sufficient quantity of arms in it to meet an emergency. Your committee therefore regret, that this subject was not brought under their consideration at an earlier period of the session. They appreciate the importance of the question, and are fully sensible of the necessity of a thorough and entire re-modelling of our whole militia system. As the period however, for closing the session of the General Assembly, under the Constitution, is now so near at hand, and as important business yet remains to be acted on by the House, your committee despair of being able to frame a system which would answer the ends in virtue, and which could be properly considered at the present session. They are also further of opinion, that the subject would be better disposed of, if referred to a commission of officers, who, during the interim between the close of the present, and the meeting of the next Legislature could take the whole matter into their deliberate consideration, and prepare for presentation at the next session, a militia system, which would be adequate to the wants of the State.

Your committee therefore ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the memorial, and recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolutions.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. SIMMONS, Chairman.