

Arming the Militia of the West.

all times, by day and night, as the necessity may require, and shall furnish any number of men which the police of Charleston, or the magistrates on Charleston Neck, may require, for the preservation of peace and the public security, in the same manner as the city guard of Charleston are used to do; and shall carry into effect the laws of the State and the city ordinances for the government of negroes and free persons of color; but the members of said corps shall have no military power over the white inhabitants of the State.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the land and buildings now used as the tobacco inspection, be, and the same are hereby, invested in the board hereinafter constituted, and their successors forever, for the purpose of being fortified as an arsenal and guard-house, for the use of the municipal guard herein constituted: *Provided,* That the same shall revert to the State, if used for any other purposes.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the land on which the lines on Charleston Neck are located, shall be, and the same is hereby, invested in the board herein constituted, and their successors in office, who shall sell the same in the most advantageous manner, and apply the proceeds to the erection of the suitable buildings, on the site of the tobacco inspection, for an arsenal, for the deposite of the arms of the State, and a guard-house, and for the use of the said municipal guard.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the municipal guard, aforesaid, may be enlisted for any term not exceeding five years, and shall be governed by the rules and articles of the United States Army, except that no punishment shall extend to life or limb; and if, in the opinion of the Attorney General, it shall be necessary, the assent of Congress shall be requested to the provisions of this act.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of said guard, a tax of ten dollars shall be, and the same is hereby, imposed, on all houses within the limits so guarded, inhabited by negroes or persons of color, as tenants; also, a tax of ten dollars upon all free male negroes, or persons of color, who exercise any mechanical trade within the above limits; who shall receive a license, which shall endure until the first day of January next succeeding its date, from the tax collector of St. Philip's and St. Michael's, and shall then pay said tax. And any such person, who shall exercise his trade without complying with this law, shall forfeit one hundred dollars—half to the informer, and the rest to the support of said guard; to be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction, by action of debt; also, a tax, not exceeding twenty-five per cent. upon the general tax, upon all property within the limits aforesaid, to be assessed by the board herein constituted: all which taxes shall be collected by the tax collector of St. Philip's and St. Michael's, in the same manner as other taxes, and shall be paid to the board herein constituted, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of said guard. And all persons liable to any of the above taxes, shall,

when he makes his return, swear that the same contains a full and true account of all property held in his own right, or otherwise subject to the above taxes; and the assessor shall make diligent inquiry of all houses liable to said tax.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Brigadier General of the 4th brigade, and the officers thereof, the Intendant and Wardens of the city of Charleston, and the Commissioners of Cross Roads on Charleston Neck, shall constitute a board, for the purpose of carrying this act into full effect; appointing and displacing the officers of the guard, and generally, performing all acts necessary and proper to effectuate the intention of this act; and make and establish all rules and orders relative to said guard, not inconsistent with the laws of the land.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when, in the opinion of the said board, the said guard is sufficiently organized to secure Charleston and the Neck, the present city guard shall be abolished; and the inhabitants within said district shall not be liable to patrol duty: but any military force necessary shall be ordered on duty by the proper officers of the militia.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all enlistments shall be conditioned; that no enlisted man shall vote at any city or State election; and any offender shall be liable to dismissal, and forfeiture of all pay and clothing.

In the Senate House, on the twenty-first day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, and in the forty-seventh year of the Independence of the United States of America.

JACOB B. F'ON.

President of the Senate.

PATRICK NOBLE,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

ARMING THE MILITIA.

Letter of Colonel Bonford, on Ordnance duty, to the Secretary of War, relative to the number of arms required annually to supply the Militia of the West. February 24, 1823.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, Jan. 8, 1823.

SIR: In answer to the resolution of the Senate, of the 23d ultimo, I have the honor to report, that "the number of arms annually required to supply the militia of the West," is estimated at 3,500 muskets. This estimate is founded upon the following considerations, viz: the annual appropriation of \$200,000 for arming and equipping the militia, it is estimated, will insure a product of 14,000 muskets annually, and defray all the incidental expenses of inspecting, packing boxes, carriage to the arsenals, and transportation to the respective States and Territories. That number of muskets, or other arms equivalent thereto, is therefore required for annual distribution to the whole body of the militia of the United States; and it is estimated that one-fourth of that number, 3,500, will

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be required for the militia of the West. This proportion is founded upon the consideration, that such of the Western States and Territories, which would be supplied from the Western armory, contain one-fourth of the entire population of the United States.

To ascertain "the probable number of arms necessary to be placed in the military depositories located on the Western waters," the following facts and views are respectfully submitted:

The total number of arms, in good order for service, now deposited in the several depots of the United States, is as follow, viz:

Muskets	-	-	-	-	-	268,890
Rifles	-	-	-	-	-	20,689
Pistols	-	-	-	-	-	34,859
Cavalry sabres	-	-	-	-	-	25,062
Artillery swords	-	-	-	-	-	7,762
Total number in all the depots	-	-	-	-	-	<u>357,262</u>

Of the foregoing, the following are deposited in the depots of the West, including at Pittsburg, viz:

Muskets	-	-	-	-	-	35,968
Rifles	-	-	-	-	-	6,201
Pistols	-	-	-	-	-	10,654
Cavalry sabres	-	-	-	-	-	10,567
Artillery swords	-	-	-	-	-	2,464
Total number in the Western depots	-	-	-	-	-	<u>65,854</u>

If the principle assumed with respect to arms for the militia be taken in this case also, viz., that the general stock of arms in the country should be distributed to the principal sections of it, in a ratio proportionate to the population of each, it will appear that the Western depots now require about 23,500 stands, to give them a due proportion of the general stock. If this calculation be applied to muskets alone, which is the principal arms, the deficiency in the Western depots will appear to be about 31,000.

The average number of arms which are manufactured annually, under the provisions of existing laws, may be estimated as follows, viz:

The product of the two National armories	24,000
Made by individuals, on contracts for supplying the militia, under the law of 1808	14,000
Total number now made annually	<u>38,000</u>

One-fourth of which is 9,500; which number, it is conceived, should be transported to the West, and deposited in the Western depots annually.

There has been transported, from the Atlantic States to the Western States and Territories, from 1812 to 1822, both years inclusive, the following number and description of arms, viz:

Muskets	-	-	-	-	-	49,500
Rifles	-	-	-	-	-	6,878
Pistols	-	-	-	-	-	13,990
Cavalry sabres	-	-	-	-	-	12,200

Artillery swords	-	-	-	-	-	2,350
Carbines	-	-	-	-	-	500
Total number transported to the West, during 11 years	-	-	-	-	-	<u>85,418</u>

Equal to an annual average number of 7,765.

From the foregoing statements it results, that between seven and eight thousand stands of arms have been annually transported to the West, since the commencement of the late war; that about twenty-five thousand stands are now necessary to be transported thither, in order to give the Western depots a due supply; and that, to keep up that supply, nearly ten thousand stands must be annually sent there hereafter.

The amount which has been paid for transporting arms to the West, cannot be accurately ascertained. Heretofore the cost of transportation has been estimated at one dollar per stand, which was probably correct. But it is believed that, owing to the present improved state of the roads, and the general reduction of prices, arms can now be transported for seventy-five cents each.

"The probable cost of manufacturing arms in the West," may be stated to be the same as the cost of the arms made at the armories now established. Iron from the same works which supply the armory at Harper's Ferry, can be delivered at any point on the Ohio river, for the same prices which are paid at Harper's Ferry. Pit coal, charcoal, and gun stocks, can be procured in the West upon much better terms than at either of the present armories. Other articles would cost more in the West than in the Atlantic States.

The wages of workmen, which forms about two-thirds of the cost of the arms, may be stated to be as low, at least, in the West, as on the seaboard; for, it may be presumed that labor will eventually be cheapest where subsistence is most abundant and cheapest.

The probable cost of erecting, at this time, on the "Western waters, such an armory as that at Harper's Ferry or Springfield," may be estimated at \$200,000, including the purchase of sites, mill-seats, and the erection of mill-dams, buildings, and machinery. This cost, however, will depend materially upon the convenience and fitness of the sites which may be selected.

It would require about three years to erect such an establishment. During the first year, little more could be done than to select the position, and to make preparatory arrangements for a supply of building materials. The sites could not be examined advantageously until late in the Summer, when the waters are low; the season would then be too far advanced to commence building. It is estimated that thirty thousand dollars would be sufficient for the expenditures of the first year.

In reference to the expediency or in expediency of establishing an additional armory, it may be proper to state, that muskets belonging to the United States, at the commencement of the late war, have been estimated at upwards of two hundred thousand stands, and that the number of muskets manufactured during the war was about sixty

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thousand. At the close of the year 1814, scarcely twenty thousand stands remained in the arsenals, and great efforts were made to procure an additional supply. Had the war continued another year, the deficiency of arms would have occasioned the most embarrassing consequences.

From this statement, it appears that at least two hundred and forty thousand muskets were expended during the late war; a quantity nearly approaching the number now on hand, as stated in a former part of this report. Thus, it is seen, that nearly eight years of peace have been required to make good losses occasioned by a war of less than three years' duration.

The great extent of seacoast and inland frontier, necessary to be defended in time of war, will render large distributions of arms to the militia and other new raised troops indispensable; and it is reasonable to presume, as well from past experience as from the nature of the case, that our resources will sooner fail in this respect than in any other of our military supplies. And, as so much time is required to put into full operation an establishment for the manufacture of arms upon a large scale, it will not be in the power of the Government, on a sudden emergency, to increase very materially the supply.

If it should be decided to establish an armory in the Western country, it would be advisable to advance it gradually, until it reached the extent of the present national armories. Five or six years would be required for this purpose, because a sufficient number of experienced workmen could not be procured in a shorter period, without materially deranging the operation of the armories now established.

The total annual product of arms, with an additional armory upon a scale equal to the present, may be estimated as follows, viz:

Three national armories, twelve thousand dollars each	\$36,000
The appropriation for arming and equipping the militia	14,000
Total	\$50,000

I have the honor to be, &c.

GEORGE BOMFORD,

Lieut. Col. on Ordnance Duty.

The Hon. J. C. CALHOUN.

MANUFACTURERS' MEMORIAL.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The memorial of the Board of Manufactures of the Pennsylvania Society, for the encouragement of American Manufactures, respectfully sheweth:

That it is with extreme reluctance we feel constrained, by a sense of duty to ourselves and to our common country, to undertake to prove, that

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the existing tariff of the United States is unjust, oppressive, partial, and impolitic, and loudly calls for a radical revision and correction.

1. *We believe it unjust and oppressive—*

Because it taxes necessities of life most exorbitantly high, some of them used exclusively by the poor, and admits at low duties, comforts, conveniences, and luxuries, used chiefly and some of them exclusively by the rich.

If this be proved, as we hope will be the case, we fondly flatter ourselves, that enlightened citizens of all classes, paying due regard to their own honor, and that of their country, will not only not oppose a revision and correction of it, but unite in the accomplishment of that object.

The duty on molasses is about forty-two per cent.; on bohea tea, one dollar and twenty cents; on souchong, one dollar and fifty cents; on brown sugar, one dollar; and on salt, about one dollar and eighty cents. These are all necessities of life. Three of them are used exclusively by the poor, and, according to the practice of wise nations, and the dictates of reason, common sense, and justice, ought to be admitted at low duties. The rich, deriving far more advantage than the poor from the protection of Government, and being able to contribute incomparably more in proportion to their means, ought to be taxed accordingly. It would, therefore, be unjust, even were the duties equal on both. What decision, then, must be passed on a system which taxes the poor ten, fifteen, and twenty-fold higher than the rich, and will appear clear as the noon day sun from the following detail? Gold and silver plate, jewels, lace, lace veils, watches, &c., pay but seven and a half per cent. duty; clocks, silks, satins, cambric linens, bombazets, tartan plaids, gauzes, and Canton crapes, but fifteen per cent.; china, elegant cutlery, girandoles, and lustres, but twenty per cent.; and plated ware, fine muslin, and kerseymer, broadcloth, Cashmere and merino shawls, Brussels carpets, &c., but twenty-five per cent.

We respectfully solicit your most serious consideration to this exhibit, being persuaded that the tariff of no nation in the civilized world affords a more striking picture of oppression of the poor—partiality to the rich—or violation of the fundamental principles of sound legislation. It appears that one hundred dollars worth of salt pays as much duty as seven hundred and twenty dollars worth of Brussels carpets, nine hundred dollars, worth of girandoles or porcelain, or twenty-four hundred dollars worth of plate.

2. *The tariff is partial in the extreme.*

A wealthy sugar planter, with an annual income of three, four, five, or ten thousand dollars, is, as appears above, protected in his bulky staple, of which the freight is very high, by a duty of one hundred per cent.; the tobacco planter, by duties all but prohibitory; the cotton planter by a duty of thirty-seven and a half per cent.; and the farmer, by a duty of thirty-three per cent. on hemp, one hundred and fifty per cent. on cheese, and by duties averaging about one hundred per cent. on foreign spirits, to protect him in the market for