



AND

North-Carolina State Gazette.

Once are the plans of fair delighful Peace, Unwarped by party rage, to live like Brothers.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1809.

No. 535.

Adjutant General's Report.

To the Honorable, the General Assembly of the State of North-Carolina.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour, in conformity with the provisions of Law, to communicate to you a general Return of the Militia of the State for the present year, with a Register of the General and Field Officers.

Though the Return is more defective than I could wish, it shews so far as it respects, on a comparison with former Returns, some little degree of improvement in the Militia, both in number of men and equipments, and in discipline.

Notwithstanding partial defects in the militia, the general Assembly will learn with pleasure, that an encircled military spirit pervades in different parts of the State, which I duly fostered and encouraged, to give greater respectability and efficiency to our Militia.

It may possibly happen that persons will sometimes obtain Officers, whose law and order will be rather to acquire in equity, which they dishonour, than to perform substantial services, and who will desert their posts when duties are required, or danger presses itself.

It has been made my duty (and I shall cordially perform it) to suggest to the Legislature whatever I shall deem calculated to improve the Militia. I hope I shall not be considered wanting in due diligence, when I say that I consider the Militia Laws to be very defective, and that in my opinion they should be amended.

The necessary degree of Military Discipline and Spirit to constitute an intelligent and respectable Officer, should be estimated by his readiness to equip himself with the arms and habiliments of war. Commissions ought to be withheld until that Principle and Spirit has manifested itself; and Officers should be coerced in this respect by the imposition of fines.

Experience on former occasions has taught me that Brigade Inspectors were capable of doing much towards promoting discipline of I should be wanting in my duty did I forbear to recommend the creation of those Officers—taking care to guard the mode of appointment in such a manner, giving such a latitude to choice, and granting such liberal reward for services, as would ensure the employment of the best talents.

It deserves to be considered, whether the law of the last session, for dissolving such volunteer companies as should not at a certain period have forty men enrolled and equipped, was a politic Law, and likely to be attended with useful effects.

The policy of that law may perhaps be still more questionable, which requires Regimental Masters of Cavalry. The expense, trouble and waste of time of these musters, operating on persons often unable to bear either, will certainly have the effect of depressing these Corps, and has been rendered to me as a cause of their having been in some instances totally annihilated.

It lessens the Respectability of a military company, to have men of colour in the ranks, and prevents many persons from mustering, who would otherwise do so. Persons of this description ought to form Pioneer Corps, and be mustered separately, without arms.

It is of the highest importance that our Military Establishments should be put on a footing with those of Europe, and that we should avail ourselves of foreign improvements. Horse Artillery has long been the engine of French successes, and is now the instrument by which the fate of armies is principally decided in Europe.

The untrained state of a considerable portion of the Militia, claims the consideration of the Legislature. Almost the only arms fit for service are rifles. They are generally reported to be good, and in the hands of excellent marksmen; but they have such a great variety of calibre, that in the event of war, when ammunition would be served out of public magazines, they would many of them, by that circumstance, be rendered unfit for service.

Though much is to be effected by the enterprise and skill of Officers, who are able, without any other laws than those imposed by honor and a zeal for their country's service, to induce such a portion of martial order, and impart such a degree of information, as will, under any circumstances, make the Militia respectable, and give them the appearance of efficiency in a military sense, yet the most important and valuable act of Legislation, is to have thus notified, with a frankness which my duty requires, some of the imperfections of our Military Code, and have respectfully and with much deference suggested what I deem to be improvements and amendments; and having experienced the utility of all former attempts to improve the Militia in the degree desired, I entertain a hope the Legislature will take such liberal measures as will produce a wise and energetic system of Laws for its future government.

If, under any circumstances, any information in the power of this Department to furnish, is desired, it will be cheerfully and promptly rendered. The papers and records of this office are now properly methodized and arranged, and ready access will be afforded to them by Committees or individual members of the Legislature.

I have the honor to be, With the highest respect, Your Obedient Servant, CALVIN JONES, Adjutant General of the North-Carolina Militia.

Raleigh, Nov. 27, 1809.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER, From General Patton to his Excellency the Governor, dated November, June 7, 1808.

It is impossible to reflect upon the important rank which the wealth and population of this State entitles her to hold in the Union, without being struck with the inadequate means that have been employed to embody and give a useful direction to the immense natural resources she possesses. On every subject connected with the Militia particularly, a remissness seems to have prevailed, which, in the event of an actual invasion, would place the defenses of the State on a most feeble and precarious footing, and expose all that is valuable in social life to a probable issue, which a patriotic mind cannot contemplate without a mingled emotion of astonishment and regret.

Every thing possible to be achieved by Love of Country and undisciplined Valour might naturally be expected from the collective body of the People, contending for the Government of their choice, for the soil which contains the ashes of their Fathers, for their Wives and Children, for their "altars and fire-sides;" but history, experience and the passing occurrences of the day forbid the expectation that Patriotism,

however ardent, Valour however doubtless, can overturn veteran troops enured to the toils of war, accustomed to subordination, and supplying the deficiency of numbers not less by unity of action than by celerity of movement.

To place the Militia of this State in that respectable situation of discipline which can alone make an enemy feel their strength, it appears to me that the first essential step is to subject all the laws on that head to a complete revision, and by retaining the useful and expunging the inconvenient provisions, to form a system at once concise, intelligible, energetic. A measure so important ought to be conducted with great care and deliberation, and should previously be digested for the consideration of the Legislature. I would therefore most respectfully submit to the consideration of your Excellency, the propriety of recommending to the Legislature the plan of forming a Military Committee, to consist of such members of their body as are most experienced in such affairs, with instructions to project, during the recess, the outlines of such a code as the exigencies of the Country demand, and its situation permits.

Leisure would thus be afforded for obtaining information from all proper sources, the parts of the system could be adjusted with a view to their proper relation to each other, and to the whole. And what is of no slight importance, a mass of knowledge would be collected, highly useful in the ultimate decision of the Legislature.

Treasurer's Report.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of North-Carolina.

GENTLEMEN,

BY way of making to you the annual Report required of the Public Treasurer by Law, I have the honour respectfully to submit the following, viz.

The Receipts at the Public Treasury of North-Carolina, from the first day of November, 1808, to the first day of November, 1809, including the public taxes of every description, amount to twenty-six thousand seven hundred and eighty pounds, nineteen shillings and six pence (£26,789 19 6)—which sum being added to the balance remaining in the Treasury on the first day of November, 1808, as reported to the last General Assembly; say, to thirty seven thousand eight hundred and forty three pounds, fifteen shillings and nine pence, makes an aggregate of sixty-four thousand six hundred & twenty-four pounds, fifteen shillings and three pence (£64,623 15 3).

Out of this aggregate amount or sum of £64,623 15 3, Disbursements have been made, within the period above mentioned, to amount of forty-three thousand five hundred and seventy-eight pounds, thirteen shillings & eight pence (£43,578 13 8) the Vouchers for which have been delivered to and passed upon by the Comptroller, and are held by him ready for the inspection of the Committee of Finance.

Deduct this Expenditure from the aggregate amount above mentioned, and a balance of twenty one thousand and forty-six pounds, one shilling and seven pence (£21,046 1 7) is left in the Treasury on the first day of November instant; say, on the first day of November, 1809, yet to be accounted for.

The Receipts at the Public Treasury for Lands entered, and which have been paid for, from the first day of November, 1808, to the first day of November, 1809, amount to one thousand six hundred and ninety-four pounds, seventeen shillings and nine pence (£1,694 17 9)—this amount however is set off and covered by Certificate and other Vouchers, likewise handed to and passed upon by the Comptroller, and does not therefore in any wise affect the foregoing statement.

The Balance remaining in the Treasury on the first day of November, 1809, and yet to be accounted for, as is above said, is but small when compared with the amount of the cash on hand in preceding years; but assisted by the usual Receipts, and with the other Aids already provided by Law, it will probably prove commensurate to all the ordinary demands of Government.

Since the last Session of the Assembly, and with the proceeds of the eight per cent. Stock of the funds of the United States, owned by this State, which has been redeemed, I have caused to be purchased, in Philadelphia, and on account of the State, fourteen thousand two hundred and ninety-two dollars, eleven cents, of the unredeemed old six per cent. Stock of the funds of the United States; and ten thousand two hundred and nineteen dollars, fifty-five cents, of the unredeemed six per cent. deferred stock of the said funds: each at the rate of 102 per cent.

And I have purchased likewise, with other public monies, the Stocks in the said funds which stand on the books of the Commissioner of Loans for this State

to the credit of the late Colonel Hardy Murfree, amounting, in unredeemed old six per cents, to thirteen hundred and eighty dollars, fifty cents—in unredeemed six per cent. deferred Stock, to fifteen hundred and twenty-nine dollars, thirty-eight cents; and in three per cent. Stock, to two thousand seven hundred and twenty-seven dollars, forty-seven cents. Full payment has not yet been made for this Stock; but it is understood and agreed the balance due shall be paid, as soon as the price current of such Stocks at Philadelphia, on the first day of October last, shall be properly and satisfactorily ascertained.

There are some ragged Bills in the Treasury, which will be put in order to be burnt, in the course of the session, in case the Legislature shall think proper to burn them:—And in regard to the worn and ragged Money of the State generally which is at present in circulation, it may, perhaps, be proper for me here to observe—that when the Installments due from the State to the Banks shall be fully paid up, and the public funds shall be otherwise liberated and released, the Dividends which shall thereafter be declared by the Banks in favor of the State, will, as I conceive, undoubtedly form an eligible mean of Redemption, if one more speedy than that heretofore in use be wished; inasmuch as, if applied, they will operate effectually, gradually, and directly on our Paper Medium; whilst, considered in the light of a tax, such appropriation will have, well nigh, an imperceptible and indirect operation only on the Citizens of the State. If heretofore the Redemption and Destruction of the Paper Money of the State shall be thought advisable and is desired, (of the policy of which measure I ask here to be understood as intruding no opinion) and this mean of effecting it shall be considered most convenient by the Legislature; it will only remain, in providing for its application, to accommodate it, in point of time, to the condition and particular circumstances of the Public Treasury.

It will possibly here be expected from me, that some account be given of the operation of the Law passed by the last Assembly in regard to the Collection of Arrearages. It would indeed be highly pleasant were it in my power to inform, that it has had the effect contemplated by the Legislature; but such is so far from being the case, that the fact is, that Law has produced little or no consequence. In this, however, I have scarcely been disappointed; for I was so well aware of the endeavours heretofore repeatedly made by myself and others, and of the many abortive attempts to enforce a collection of those outstanding public debts, that I was reluctantly compelled to consider the provisions of the Act, in some degree, as a forlorn hope. I have, nevertheless, by no means, been inattentive to the duties enjoined me, nor shall I lose sight of the object in view.

The singular case of Weatherly, Sheriff of Guilford, whose failure to account for and pay up the Taxes of 1807 was made known to the last Assembly, will probably be considered as making it necessary to amend one of the Revenue Laws of the State. The Act of Assembly as it now runs, makes the Justices of the Peace, who shall be on the bench at the appointment of a Sheriff, accountable in case they shall have suffered him to qualify and act as such without first giving Bond:—In the case above referred to, the Sheriff in question, it appears, did not qualify, but nevertheless acted; and thus it has been found, this case did not come within the provision and letter of the Law.

Below will be found an Abstract or Statement of the Stocks of the Funds of the United States, which belong to the State of North-Carolina.

I have the Honour to be, Gentlemen, Very true and very respectfully, Your Obedient Servant, JOHN HAYWOOD, Public Treasurer.

Raleigh, 30th Nov. 1809.

STOCKS of the Funds of the United States belonging to North-Carolina.

Table with 2 columns: Amount and Description. Includes entries like '25,572 05 Converted six per cents.', '13,955 01 Exchanged do.', '14,292 11 Unredeemed old 6 per cents.', '10,219 55 Do. 6 per cent. def. red Stock.', '1,380 50 Do old 6 p. ct. last purchased.', '1,529 38 Do. 6 per cent. deferred do.', '2,727 47 Of 3 per cent. do.'