





and express here confirmed my acquaintance with the... which would probably have from the... of Congress than I do not hesitate to express to my own mind, that the... of the country which has been... with the... which I have... upon the subject has been...

upon the subject. Its improvement was therefore an object of increasing... Washington, and almost every... President commenced his career... the attention of Congress to the... which he recommended... General Cox, when... of the subject had been presented... less than thirty-one... communications... of President Washington.

The principal objections to the present system appear to arise from the... of the militia had to actual service, and... to a certain number of days... from the want of adequate means or industry to secure a proper instruction... only rendered in a great degree... and is also necessarily burdensome.

By the Federal Constitution, Congress has the power to provide and call out the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrection and... for these purposes, by existing laws, and... to render it effective, is compelled... arms, and... at stated periods, and kept always ready for service... the whole of the able bodied male... of the United States, between... and forty-four... according to official returns, exceed... and a half of a million, and probably... and consequently... of the existing preparatory... of the country, under the... of the States in pursuance thereof... to the militia, by existing laws... to the militia, by existing laws... to the militia, by existing laws...

By such a settlement of the question, our... of the country, by existing laws... to the militia, by existing laws... to the militia, by existing laws... to the militia, by existing laws... to the militia, by existing laws...

the Federal Government, near the place where the militia are to muster for training; but, like all his predecessors, he proposed to leave the militia to the... which makes it the duty of every... citizen to be constantly provided with... of his own expense. This law, it will be remembered, was passed under the administration of Gen. Washington, and... Regarded as an indication of the principles of our Government, which confides in the protection of the militia to the hands of the free citizens of the Republic, it was honorable to our... the institutions of other countries by which the people, so far from being... to possess them, and deprived of their use... of the law the indifference of the provision of the law to induce the people to arm themselves properly has been fully... It is vain to expect, say Governor Cass in the report before cited, that the whole able bodied militia of the country can, or will, furnish themselves with the arms required by law."

It is not only a matter of fact, but a matter of principle, that the militia are to be provided with arms by the Government, and not by the individual citizen. The Government is bound to provide arms for the militia, and to keep them in good order, and to supply them with the necessary accoutrements. This is a duty which the Government cannot shirk, and which it must discharge in a prompt and efficient manner.

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