

## SENATE....No. 42.

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### Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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IN SENATE, February 22, 1850.

The Joint Standing Committee on the Militia respectfully submit the subjoined

#### REPORT:

Agreeably to the requirements of law, the committee have visited the State Arsenal at Cambridge. Although their visit was unexpected to the keeper of the arsenal, they found every thing in excellent order, from the workshop to the attic of the store-houses. The Commonwealth have deposited, in the principal store-house, over 8,000 muskets, about 1,100 rifles, and more than 400 carbines and pistols, with all their necessary equipments, apparently in such condition that they may be prepared for service in the shortest possible time. The tents and other camp equipage, also appeared to be in a good state of preservation.

The committee were particularly pleased with the appearance of the field-pieces and their equipments. They seemed to be as good and as serviceable as when they first came from the hands of the manufacturers. There are twenty bronze cannon, of caliber varying from six to twelve pounds, and some of them, of the latest pattern of casting, are worthy of inspection as beautiful specimens of workmanship.

During the past year, the adjutant general has caused to be erected, in accordance with a resolve of April 28, 1849, a new

building, designed principally for the storage of field-pieces, field carriages, &c. It is built of pressed brick, one hundred feet long by twenty-five feet wide, and a story and a half high, with a slated roof. It appears to be, in every respect, a thoroughly built and substantial edifice, and well calculated to answer the purposes for which it was erected. The whole cost of the building was \$2,728 78; but the expense was defrayed by the sale of unserviceable guns and munitions, which had been accumulating for some time, together with the old wooden sheds in the arsenal yards.

W. A. HAWLEY, *Chairman.*