

being made by himself and the Governor. He further reports that after the contracts had been entered into, and the arms purchased, the Governor and himself concluded that it would be attended with less expense and more facility of transportation to the different companies throughout the State, to have the arms deposited in a warehouse in the city of Baltimore; and in furtherance of their object procured the services of H. C. Hicks, to act as agent to inspect the arms, and to forward them under orders from the Adj. General to the different companies, and to pay the cost of transportation. For these services H. C. Hicks was to receive the sum of \$500.

The Adj. General does not state, but your committee are brought necessarily to the inference, that this sum of \$500 has been appropriated to the use indicated, from the amount appropriated by the State for the purchase of arms. Your committee think the report of the Governor and Adj. General, not only an incomplete and unsatisfactory response to the order of the House, failing as it does, to give an account of all the money expended, but as clearly exhibiting an unwarrantable use of the public money entrusted to their care, by appropriating a portion of the same to a use for which it was not designed, and a deliberate violation of the law under which they acted, by entrusting the disbursement of a portion of the money, and the inspection of the arms, to a party not legally bound to them, or the State, and whose agency under the law they were not authorized to make or employ.

Further, in the adoption of a warehouse in the city of Baltimore as a place of deposit, when they were expressly required by the law to deposit the arms in the armories of the State, the result of which has been the loss to the State of 370 infantry arms and accoutrement, and 16 cavalry arms and accoutrements, the balance remaining on hand, not distributed. Your committee, therefore, recommend, in view of these facts, as an act of justice to the people of the State, as well as to the authorities concerned, a thorough investigation of this whole matter, by a committee appointed for that purpose, and that said committee have power to send for persons and papers.

BARNES COMPTON, Ch'n.
 B. MILLS,
 ROSS WINANS,
 THOS. C. WORTHINGTON.