

the militia of the states, to serve not exceeding six months, the quota of the state of New York was thirteen thousand five hundred men.

On the twenty-first of April, Governor Daniel D. Tompkins issued his general order "for the detachment of the enrolled militia required from the state, and specified the quota to be drawn from each regiment of militia in the state, which was then composed of about two hundred infantry regiments," which formed forty-two brigades, in eight divisions.

The governor of the state was commander-in-chief of its militia. The artillery was under the command of Major-General Ebenezer Stevens, and comprised three brigades. Major-General Solomon Van Rensselaer had command of the three brigades of cavalry. The entire enrolled militia of the state of New York was about one hundred thousand men.

All the commissioned officers in the militia were appointed by the council of appointment, of which the governor was a member, and who possessed the sole authority to assign them to the positions of rank held by them. It is said that Governor Tompkins exercised the power of commander-in-chief "in a manner that almost ignored the authority of the council of appointment in the selection of militia officers." In politics the council of appointment at the outbreak of the war "was federal and opposed to the war, while the governor was a democrat and in favor of the war."

"In the early part of June, Governor Tompkins received the following communication from the secretary-of-war of the United States :

" War Department, May 26, 1812.

" Sir:—I am directed by the President to request your Excellency to order into actual services, on the requisition of General Bloomfield, such part of the quota of the militia of the state of New York required by my letter of the 15th of April, as may be deemed necessary for the defence of the city and harbor of New York.

" I have the honor to be, sir,

" Your obedient servant,

" His Excellency,

" W. EUSTIS."

" D. D. TOMPKINS, Albany."

" By brigade orders of June 5, 1812, the quota furnished from the first and third regiments of the first brigade of artillery were formed into one battalion, commanded by Major Robert Swartwout,<sup>1</sup> and the quota from the second and fourth regiments were formed into one battalion to be commanded by Major John

<sup>1</sup> Robert, the third son of Abraham and Maria North Swartwout, was then engaged in business with his brother, John, at No. 66 Water Street. On April 18, 1800, he was appointed second lieutenant in the first artillery regiment of (militia) of the city and county of New York. On March 18, 1803, he was commissioned a first lieutenant in the first regiment of artillery, and on March 15, 1806, captain; and on February 11, 1811, second major. On March 21, 1813, he was commissioned quartermaster-general in the United States army, with the rank of brigadier-general. On June 5, 1816, he returned to civil life by the disbandment of the army organized for the war.