

be sure of defeat. It is the part of wisdom to prepare for danger; hence the necessity of investing the Executive, if they do not already possess them, with the proper means of maintaining the supremacy of the laws.

Happily for us, our fathers, with wisdom and forecast, provided the means of averting the dangers apprehended by the order of inquiry. They invested the government which they established with ample powers to maintain itself, and effectually check the outbreaks of licentiousness, or the bold and dangerous schemes of ambition. A hasty review of the means in force for the more perfect administration of government, will serve to show that the objects contemplated by the order are already satisfied.

In the constitution and laws which they ordained, we find that the Governor, with the advice of his Council, may embody the militia, and when embodied, shall have the direction thereof; may suspend militia officers for a limited time; may suspend or remove any civil officer, not appointed during good behaviour; may suspend or remove any regular officer of the land or sea service; may convoke the General Assembly when the public service require it; and may exercise all the Executive powers of government according to the laws of this State.— These powers are deemed sufficiently ample to protect from sudden aggression any portion of the State. With power to convoke the Legislative Department of the Government whenever, in their opinion the public service requires it, no serious danger is to be apprehended, unless we suppose that the Executive will not be vigilant of duty.

Our Bill of Rights too, adopted the common law, or so much of it, as may be found applicable to our condition. And a part of the common law, is the law of *conspiracy*; which, it is believed, affords ample penalties, for all offences contemplated by the order. The Court of Appeals of this State have in the case of the State, vs Buchanan, decided, "That every conspiracy to do an *unlawful act*, or to do a lawful act, for an illegal, fraudulent, malicious or corrupt purpose; or for a purpose which has a tendency to prejudice the public in general, is at common law, an indictable offence, though nothing be done in execution of it, and no matter by what means the conspiracy was intended to be effected." To combine to alter or change the form of government, in a mode unknown to