

That if a sufficient number of men shall enroll to make up a company of artillery men, they may chuse their proper officers, who shall be commissioned as aforesaid, and subject to the same rules as the militia.

And whereas it is absolutely necessary in this time of imminent danger, that there should be some power existing, which may superintend the execution of the orders and resolutions of the Convention, and occasionally, from time to time, promote the prudent and necessary preparations for defence, and in case of necessity, call forth a due proportion, or even the whole of the force of the province, in an orderly and regular manner, whereby the strength of the whole will be greatly increased in the common defence, and the rights and liberties of all better secured,

RESOLVED, That sixteen persons, eight of whom residing on the western, and eight on the eastern-shore, shall be chosen by ballot, by this Convention, and be stiled and denominated The Council of Safety of Maryland.

That any nine or more of the said Council of Safety convened, or the major part of them, direct and regulate the operations of the minute-men and militia, and may as aforesaid, grant all military commissions, appoint and commission field officers, and appoint and regulate the rank of all military officers. And in the recess of the Convention call forth the minute-men into action in any place or places in this province or the neighbouring colonies, and the militia into action in any place or places in this province, at such time and times, in such proportions, and on such occasions as they may judge necessary; and do all such other matters and things for securing and strengthening this province and for providing for the defence thereof, as they shall deem necessary and expedient, and execute such other powers as may be entrusted to them by the Convention of this province.

That as at some times a necessity for taking speedy measures, may be so pressing that a delay till the Council of Safety could assemble together, would be highly dangerous, and many things of less moment may well and more conveniently be transacted by a majority of members residing on the respective shores, the members residing on either shore respectively, or the major part of them, or such of them as shall be in this province, may not only grant commissions for court-martials when applied for, and hear, determine, and punish high and dangerous offences, according to the resolutions of this Convention, but may also in case of instant danger, or pressing necessity, call forth the minute-men or militia of their respective shore; yet it is recommended, if time will permit, for the whole Council of Safety, or nine of them to meet and consult together, that those of either shore do not separately call forth the minute-men or militia; and that if time will not permit such meeting and consultation, then, as soon after the separate act done as may be, the whole Council of Safety shall be summoned, and the orders and resolutions of a majority of any nine or more of them, shall controul and govern; it being the intention of this Convention, that a joint Council, when the same can be held on things of moment, should have the supreme direction.

That any two or more of the said Council of Safety call a meeting of the members on their respective shore, or of the whole.

That any officer of the minute-men or militia may be suspended from the exercise of his commission by the Council of Safety, or that branch of it residing on the shore whereon such officer resides; or if the Council of Safety should think proper, they may, upon full hearing, displace any field officer, and appoint and commission another in his stead; and that on the death, resignation or removal of any commissioned officer, below the degree of a field officer, from his office, the Council of Safety may appoint and commission another in his stead.

That the Council of Safety, or either branch thereof, for expences incurred on its respective shore, may from time to time, draw orders on the treasurer of their respective shore