

An ACT to continue the act of assembly for enlarging the powers of the governor and council, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

BE it enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That an act of assembly, entitled, An act for enlarging the powers of the governor and council, made at a session of assembly, begun and held at the city of Annapolis on Monday the twenty-sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, be and is hereby continued, and shall be and remain in full force, to the end of the next session of assembly which shall happen after the end of the present session of assembly.

An act continued.

II. And, Whereas it is thought expedient to appoint agents residing in this state, and to lodge a discretionary power with the governor and council to procure provisions of the bread kind for the continental army:

III. Be it enacted, That the governor and council shall and are hereby authorized, empowered, and requested, to appoint one or more person or persons of respectable character in each county of this state, and give them a commission to purchase provisions of the species hereafter mentioned, to wit: wheat, wheat flour, and wheat bread, for the use of the continental army.

Governor and council to appoint persons to purchase provisions, &c.

IV. And be it enacted, That such person or person, when so appointed and commissioned, shall be and are hereby obliged to act under the said appointment and commission, or shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred pounds for neglect or refusal.

Persons appointed obliged to act, &c.

V. And be it enacted, That the person or persons so appointed shall, before he enters on the execution of his office, give bond with good security, before some justice of the peace of the county where he resides, in the penalty of three thousand pounds currency, with condition for the faithful performance of his trust and rendering a full account of all money lodged in his hands, and shall also take the oath of fidelity to this state, and an oath diligently and impartially to execute the office of agent for purchasing provisions for the continental army, according to the best of his skill and knowledge; the said bond to be proved by the witnesses thereto, to be lodged by the justice who shall take the same, with the clerk of the county, amongst the county records, and an attested copy from the record shall be good evidence.

And to give bond, &c.

VI. And be it enacted, That the governor and council shall be and are hereby authorized, empowered, and requested, in case they shall judge it absolutely necessary for the subsistence of the American army, but not otherwise, to direct such agent or agents to take into their possession, for the use of the army of the United States, all wheat, wheat flour, and wheat bread, that may be found in the possession of individuals, more than is necessary for the support of themselves and families for the present year, who shall refuse to sell the same for the price current, the said price to be paid to the owner or possessor, on taking the said provisions out of their possession.

Governor and council may direct agents to take into their possession wheat, &c.

VII. And