

c. J.^s Art. 54. All persons called to give evidence in any case before a Court martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal, at the discretion of such Court Martial; the oath to be administered in the form following, viz: "You swear the evidence you shall give in the case now hearing shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, So help you God"

Art. 55. Every Officer commanding a regiment, troop or company shall upon notice given to him by the Commissary of the musters, or from one of his deputies, assemble the regiment, troop or company under his command, in the next convenient place for their being mustered.

Art. 56. Every Colonel or other field Officer, or Officer commanding any Corps, to which there is no field Officer, and actually residing with it, may give furloughs to non commissioned Officers and soldiers, in such numbers, and for so long a time, as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; but no noncommissioned Officer or soldier shall, by leave of his Captain, or inferior officer commanding the troop or company (his field officer not being present) be absent above twenty days in six months, nor shall more than two private men be absent at the same time from their troop or Company, excepting some extraordinary occasion shall require it, of which occasion the field Officer present with, and commanding the regiment or independent Corps, is to be judge.

Art. 57. At every muster the Commanding Officer of each regiment, troop, or company then present, shall give to the Commissary of musters certificates signed by himself, signifying how long such Officers noncommissioned Officers and Soldiers who shall not appear at the said muster have been absent, and the reason of their absence, which reasons, and the time of absence, shall be inserted in the muster rolls opposite to the respective names of such absentees: The said certificates shall together with the muster rolls be by the said Commissary transmitted to the general, and to this or any future congress of the United Colonies, or Committee appointed thereby, within twenty days next after such muster being taken; on failure whereof, the Commissary so offending shall be discharged from the service.

Art. 58. Every Officer who shall be convicted before a general Court martial of having signed false certificate, relating to the absence of either Officer, non commissioned Officer or private soldier, shall be cashiered.

Art. 59. Every Officer who shall knowingly make a false muster of man or horse, and every Officer or Commissary, who shall willingly sign, direct, or allow the signing of the