

Special per-
mission. Sec. 23. Whoever uses or wears, except upon public parades, or by special orders or permission, to be given in writing by his commanding officer, any uniform or part thereof, or other article of military property belonging to the State, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty dollars, to be recovered as other fines under this Act.

Misdemeanor. Sec. 24. Whoever shall secrete, sell, dispose of, offer for sale, or in any manner pawn or pledge, or receive in pawn or pledge, or buy any uniform, arms or equipments, or part or parts thereof, the property of the State of Maryland, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the city or county jail for not less than six months nor more than one year, or by a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, to be recovered as provided in the preceding Sections.

Return to
custody. Sec. 25. Upon the disbandment of a volunteer company which has received uniforms, arms, equipments or military equipage from the Adjutant General, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the commanding officer of such company shall be responsible for the safe return to the custody of the Adjutant General of all public property in possession of said company, and for any loss or damage thereto, compensation may be obtained either in an action of contract or suit upon the bond, and it shall be the duty of the Adjutant General to take such legal proceedings in the name of the State.

Exempt. Sec. 26. The uniforms, arms and accoutrements of the National Guard shall be exempt from all seizures by way of distress, attachments, executions, or sales for debts or the payment of taxes, and every mounted officer or any member of a troop or battery, who shall own a horse necessary for his use as such officer or member, shall hold the same with the like exemption.

Elected by
ballot. Sec. 27. All field officers of regiments and battalions shall be elected by the ballots of the commissioned officers of the companies composing said regiments or battalions; all generals of brigades or divisions shall be elected by the ballot of the commanding officers of the regiments and battalions.