

mander-in-chief, and if the commander-in-chief shall adjudge a person unqualified for the office to which he has been elected or nominated as aforesaid, another person shall, within twenty days after due notice of such adverse decision, be elected or nominated, and in default of such election or nomination the vacancy may be filled by the commander-in-chief. All officers whose election or nomination as set forth in this Article shall be approved by the Governor and commander-in-chief shall be duly commissioned by him.

Oaths.

SEC. 15. Every commissioned officer, non-commissioned officer and private, before he enters upon his duties or exercises any command, shall take and subscribe in such manner and before such person as the commander-in-chief may direct, the following oath or affirmation, viz: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm), that I will bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and will support the Constitution thereof, so help me God." "I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm), that I will faithfully and impartially discharge all the duties incumbent upon me according to the best of my ability and understanding, agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the State of Maryland, so help me God." "I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm), that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the laws made in pursuance thereof, so help me God." Which oath or affirmation shall be duly certified by the person before whom the same is made, and said certificate shall be forwarded to the commander-in-chief through the proper channels.

When to be considered mustered in.

SEC. 16. All persons who shall have made the oath or affirmation prescribed by the preceding section shall be deemed to be enlisted and mustered into the Maryland National Guard, commissioned officers until their commissions shall have been duly vacated, and non-commissioned officers and privates for the period of three years from the date of such enlistment, unless sooner discharged by proper authority.

Resignation of officers.

SEC. 17. The resignation of commissioned officers shall be in writing directed to the Adjutant General and forwarded immediately through all the intermediate commanders who shall endorse the same with their approval or disapproval. No officer shall be considered out of service on the tender of his resignation, until the same shall have been accepted by the commander-in chief.