

companies, as directed by the commander-in-chief, who is hereby authorized to make all such rules and regulations as may be necessary to facilitate the prompt organization, equipment and transfer of said troops into the United States service.

SEC. 16. *And be it enacted*, That the commander-in-chief in conjunction with the staff of the militia of this State, is hereby authorized to establish in their discretion camps of instruction in different sections of the State for the accommodation and instruction of State troops, and the Governor shall appoint suitable officers or drill masters with the rank and pay of captain, whose duty it shall be to instruct said troops in the military art.

SEC. 17. *And be it enacted*, That all officers of the militia, commissioned and non-commissioned, shall take in such manner as the Governor may direct, the following oath or affirmation before they shall receive their commission or be qualified to act: I do swear, or affirm, that I have not borne arms against the United States, nor given any aid or countenance, sympathy or support to the men now in arms against the United States, calling themselves the Confederate States of America, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States, and support the Constitution, laws and Government of the United States, any law or ordinance of any State to the contrary notwithstanding; that I will to the best of my ability defend the Union of the United States, and never allow the separation of the same or the destruction of the Government of the United States under any circumstances, if in my power to prevent it, so help me God.

SEC. 18. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect from the date of its passage, and shall continue in force until the first day of March eighteen hundred and sixty-six.