

majors of militia; lieutenants of regular troops, captains and lieutenants of militia; ensigns of regular troops, ensigns of militia. The officers of minute-men to rank next above the officers holding the like commissions in the militia.

That any part of the militia in actual service, during the time of their actual service only, shall be subject to the rules made this Convention, for regulating and governing the forces to be raised and employed in the service of this province, and shall be entitled to the same pay and rations as the regular forces, and no more; but general and inferior court-martials shall be composed of militia officers only, and the punishment of whipping shall not be adjudged against or inflicted on any man serving in the militia.

Mr. Joseph Dashiell has leave of absence.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning half after 9 o'clock.

T U E S D A Y, January 16, 1776.

CONVENTION met. All members present as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the city of Annapolis was read and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, RESOLVED, That where any person or persons chosen or to be chosen of the committee of observation for any county or district, shall refuse to act, if the number so refusing to act in any one county or district, shall not at one and the same time exceed one fourth part of the whole number of the said committee, any part of the residue of the same committee, not less than two third parts of the same residue, met together after notice, may elect one other of the most discreet freemen of the said county or district, to be of the committee in the stead of each person so refusing to act; and the place of any person dying may be filled up in like manner, and the same rule shall also be observed, where any member of a committee of observation shall, in writing under his hand, decline to act, or shall be disqualified by the acceptance of a commission in the regular forces: but in case the vacancies shall at one and the same time exceed the said one fourth part, then a majority of those who remain of the same committee, met together, may appoint and give ten days notice at least, by advertisements set up in the most public places of the county or district, as the case may be, of the election of committee-men, in the stead of those whose places shall be so vacant, and the election shall be made accordingly, by those who are qualified to vote for committee-men, in the presence of three at least of the same committee.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.

P O S T M E R I D I E M.

Convention met.

On motion, RESOLVED, That two hundred and forty copies of the association ordered by the last Convention to be tendered to and subscribed by the freemen of this province, be forthwith printed, and that forty of the said copies be sent to the committee of observation for Baltimore county, forty of the said copies to the committee of observation for the upper district of Frederick county, and the residue of them in equal proportions to the committees of the several counties; and the committees aforesaid of Baltimore county and the upper district of Frederick county, shall cause the said association to be tendered, on or before the first day of April next, to every freeman in the hundreds of their county and district respectively, where the said association hath not been