

# 14 PROCEEDINGS of the CONVENTION

armed force that is, or may be employed to carry into execution the several unconstitutional and oppressive acts of the British parliament for laying taxes in America, to enforce the collection of those taxes, and for altering and changing the constitution and internal police of some of the united colonies.

**RESOLVED unanimously,** That this province hath hitherto exerted itself, and will upon all occasions continue to exert itself, with cheerfulness and alacrity, in the common cause, agreeable to the faith pledged in the union of the colonies: and if it shall appear to this province necessary to enter into a further compact with the other colonies for the preservation of the constitutional rights of America, this province will enter into such further engagement for that purpose.

**RESOLVED unanimously,** That this Convention, by a resolution of the 15th day of this instant, hath made sufficient provision to prevent a necessity for any person within this province now taking the oaths for the support of government under the crown of Great-Britain, and that it is the opinion of this Convention, that it is not necessary that the exercise of every kind of authority under the said crown should be now totally suppressed in this province, and all the powers of government exerted under the authority of the people.

**RESOLVED,** That the honourable Matthew Tilghman, Esq; and Thomas Johnson, jun. Robert Alexander, Samuel Chase, Robert Goldsborough, William Paca, Thomas Stone, and John Rogers, Esquires, deputies now re-elected by ballot to represent this province in Congress, be, and they or any three or more of them are, empowered to represent this province in Congress until the end of the next session of Convention, as fully as they might, until the end of this session of Convention have done the same, under their former appointment.

**RESOLVED unanimously,** That as this Convention is firmly persuaded that a re-union with Great-Britain on constitutional principles would most effectually secure the rights and liberties, and increase the strength and promote the happiness of the whole empire, objects which this province hath ever had in view, the said deputies are bound and directed to govern themselves by the instructions given to them by this Convention in its session of December last, in the same manner as if the said instructions were particularly repeated.

Agreeable to the order of the day the Convention proceeded to take into consideration the petition of lieutenant Uriah Forrest, preferred on behalf of himself and lieutenants William Sprigg Bowie, and Benjamin Brooks, setting forth, that from the conduct of their captain John Gunby of the second independent company of regular troops, they had cause to suspect his zeal for the rights and liberties of America, and praying to be removed from said company; and on hearing and considering the proofs and allegations offered, as well by the petitioners as the said John Gunby, **RESOLVED,** That it is the opinion of this Convention that the said captain John Gunby, far from having given any just cause to suspect his zeal for the rights and liberties of America, hath by his conduct manifested a laudable zeal in defence of the rights and liberties of America in general, and this province in particular.

**RESOLVED** therefore, that the said petition be rejected.

Mr. Bond has leave of absence for a few days.

The order of the day for taking into consideration the late intercepted letters to governor