

C H A P.
LIII.
Militia to be
exercised, &c.

XIV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the whole of the militia, so enrolled as aforesaid, shall, after the first day of June next, be exercised under their respective officers, as followeth; that is to say, in companies on some day in August and November, and in battalion on some day in October, after the tenth day thereof; and after the year seventeen hundred and ninety-four, the said militia shall be exercised as aforesaid, in companies on some day in the months of April and November, in battalion on some day in August, and in regiment on some day in October, after the tenth day thereof; that the captains (a) of companies shall appoint the days and places of meeting in companies, the majors (b) shall appoint the days and places of meeting in battalion, and the lieutenant-colonels shall appoint the days and places of meeting in regiment; on each of which days every militia-man so enrolled shall duly attend with his arms and accoutrements in good order, (c) and the captain or commanding officer of each company is required to appoint a fit and proper person, who shall, at the end of one hour after the time appointed for the meeting of the company, battalion or regiment, call over the muster-roll of the company, noting those who are absent, and on that day shall make return in writing to the captain or commanding officer then present, of such absentees; and all the persons so absent at the time of calling over the roll, or who shall depart from the parade before duly discharged, shall be liable to the fines hereafter mentioned.

- (a) By 1798, ch. 100, the captains, &c. are to give notice of every muster day to the non-commissioned officers, who are to give notice to the privates.
- (b) By 1798, ch. 100, the brigadier-general is to appoint the days of meeting of each regiment, battalion and extra battalion.
- (c) By 1798, ch. 100, non-commissioned officers or privates, who have muskets or guns, and appear without them, are subject to be fined.

XV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any commissioned officer shall refuse or neglect to attend on any of the days which shall be appointed for exercise, accoutred and equipped as aforesaid, (unless prevented by sickness, or some other unavoidable accident,) such commissioned officer shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding six dollars per day; (d) and any non-commissioned officer or matross in the artillery, and any non-commissioned officer or dragoon, who shall so refuse or neglect to attend on any of the said days, armed and accoutred as aforesaid, (except as before excepted,) shall forfeit a sum not exceeding two thirds of a dollar per day; and all other non-commissioned officers and privates, who shall so refuse or neglect to attend, armed and accoutred as herein before directed, (except as before excepted,) shall forfeit and pay one cent per day, unless excused for appearing without arms and accoutrements by the commanding officer of their respective companies for the day; and if they shall not attend on the several days of meeting, to be appointed as aforesaid, each and every person so neglecting shall forfeit and pay half a dollar per day, unless prevented by sickness, or other unavoidable accident; the names and surnames of all which persons, so incurring the said fines and penalties, (except such as may have paid the same into the hands of the captain or commanding officer of the company,) shall be duly and forthwith returned by the captain or commanding officer of each company, under his hand, together with such fines as he has received, to the lieutenant-colonel of the regiment to which he shall belong, who shall, immediately after the said returns are made to him, cause the same to be respectively recovered before some justice of the peace living near the place where the delinquents respectively reside, as in the case of small debts; and the said lieutenant-colonel shall, twice in every year, account with the treasurer of his shore for all monies so received, and pay the same over to such treasurer, to be subject to the future application of the general assembly.

Penalty on officers, &c. for not attending, &c.

- (d) By 1798, ch. 100, officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, may be fined for non-attendance by courts martial, as therein directed.

XVI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That a duplicate of all returns made to the lieutenant-colonels as aforesaid, and an account of all money paid to them, shall be annually lodged by the respective persons making such returns or payments with the treasurer of their respective shores.

A duplicate to be lodged, &c.

XVII. AND, whereas the remote and detached situation of that part of the militia of Queen-Anne's county who reside on Kent Island, renders it impracticable for them to meet in battalion or regiment off the said island; therefore, BE IT ENACTED, That the militia residing on Kent island shall not be compelled to meet in battalion or regiment, but that the companies composed of the militia on said island shall nevertheless be subject to be called together to exercise twice a year on said island exclusive of company meetings, at such times and at such place as the commanding officer of the battalion to which they belong shall direct, and shall be subject to the same fines for not appearing at said meetings as others are for not meeting in battalion or regiment, any thing in this act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Militia on K. Island not compelled to meet, &c.