III. And, Whereas it does not appear by the act, entitled, An act to regulate the militia, how and in what manner fines are to be imposed on persons resusing or neglecting to appear on the days appointed for exercise,

CHAP. XII, XIII.

IV. Be it enacted, That at every meeting of the companies for ex-Three or ercise, in virtue of the last recited act, where three or more commis- signed officers sioned officers are present, they shall have power to hold a court-mar-may hold a court-mar-may hold a court-martial, tial, and proceed to fine the non-commissioned officers and privates of and fine nonthe company who were not present on any of the preceding days of commissioned exercise, and have no legal excuse, and the names of the commissioned officers then absent, with the names of the persons so fined (except fuch as may have paid the same into the hands of the commanding officer of the company) shall be duly returned by the commanding officer of each company under his hand, together with such fines as he has received, to the colonel or commanding officer of the battalions respectively on each field day, and the faid colonel or commanding officer of battalions, with any two field officers present, shall proceed to fine the commissioned officers so returned as absent on any of the days of exercife, not having a lawful excuse; and the name of any field officer of the battalion absent on said field day, with the names of the commissioned officers so fined (except such as may have paid the same into the hands of said colonel or commanding officer) with the returns made by the commanding officers of each company, shall be forthwith duly transmitted by the colonel or commanding officer of each battalion, under his hand, together with such fines as he has received, to the county lieutenant, who shall, on receipt of such returns, with the assistance of two or more field officers, proceed to fine the field-officers returned as absent on any of the field days as aforesaid, and have no legal excuse; and said lieutenant shall cause all such fines (except such as may have been paid into his hands) on field and commissioned officers, noncommissioned officers and privates, as aforesaid, by warrant under his hand, to the sheriff of the county, to be levied and collected by distress and sale of the paries goods and chattels, lands or tenements, any law or usage to the contary notwithstanding.

C H A P.

An ACT for enlarging the powers of the governor and council.

HEREAS in times of imminent danger, it is necessary for Preamble. the safety and protection of the state, that extraordinary powers be vested in the governor and council, and it is at all times necessary, that a proper respect and regard be paid to the supreme executive authority,

II. Be it therefore enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, During an in-That during any invasion of this or any of the neighbouring states of governor and Virginia, Pennsylvania, or Delaware, by an army, or of this state, by council may cause dangerships of war, the governor and council shall have full power and autho-ous persons to rity to arrest, or cause to be arrested, any person or persons, whose go-be arrested, ing at large they shall have good grounds to believe may be dangerous to the state, and to confine such person or persons in any gaol or place,