

C H A P.  
XXVII.

their battalions and companies, after the most general notice they can give, and on their meeting openly read this act to the said battalions and companies, and then enrol the names of such spirited able bodied militia as shall offer themselves to be of the body of select militia; and this general assembly rely on the bravery and virtue of the youth of this state, to defend her against a cruel enemy, stimulated by revenge, avarice, and plunder.

Lists to be  
given in to the  
lieutenants,  
&c.

II. And be it enacted, That lists of the men, so voluntarily offering themselves for this honourable service, shall be immediately given in to the lieutenant of their respective county, or other commanding militia officer of the county, who shall make out a fair list of such as from their situation and other circumstances he shall judge most proper to serve in the select body of militia, not exceeding one for every ten men of the militia of his county, and the persons so chosen shall be the select militia of the same county; and at a certain place and on a certain day, to be appointed by the lieutenant, are to appear, and in his presence, if they think proper, recommend to the governor and council one captain, one lieutenant, and one ensign, for each company, consisting of not less than forty-eight or more than ninety-six non-commissioned officers and privates; but in such recommendation, if made, they are to confine themselves to inhabitants of the county who have been officers of this state in the regular service, to those who are officers of the Maryland troops in the service of the United States, or militia officers of the same county, and were or now are of as high rank as the commission to which they may be recommended; copies of which lists of select militia, and certificates of the said recommendations, shall be transmitted by the lieutenants or other commanding officer of the militia, by express, to the governor and council, who are requested to incorporate the volunteers into two or three battalions, as they may judge most proper, and appoint proper commissioned officers for them of the regular officers aforesaid, or militia, regarding the recommendations aforesaid, where they judge it consistent with the public service; and they are also occasionally to appoint field officers for the said volunteer battalions, of the officers and rank before mentioned, not appointing any officer so high as a full colonel, unless he already holds that rank in the continental service; and that the colonels or lieutenant-colonels, commanding the said regiments, be called commandants.

Volunteers to  
engage till  
Dec. 10, &c.

III. And be it enacted, That the engagement of the said volunteers shall continue and be binding until the tenth day of December, seventeen hundred and eighty-one, and no longer; that they shall be exercised two days in each week till the fifteenth day of April next, one day in each week afterwards till the fifteenth day of June, and one day in every fortnight afterwards till the said tenth day of December; and each officer and private of the said volunteers shall be allowed and receive three shillings and nine-pence real money, or the value thereof in bills of credit, for each day they shall meet and exercise pursuant to this act, to defray the necessary expences of their refreshment.

To be fur-  
nished with  
arms, &c.

IV. And be it enacted, That the said volunteers shall be furnished with the best of the public arms, with bayonets and other accoutrements, and shall be supplied from time to time with powder for their exercise; and their officers are frequently to examine their arms, and

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