

C H A P.
XXVI.
XXVII.

to the protection and safety of the eastern shore, and the common defence of the bay and state; the said special council may (in case of invasion or insurrection, or a well grounded belief that either of those events will speedily happen) order out any part of the select or other militia on the eastern shore, for its defence and protection during the time that the insurrection or invasion shall continue, and in case of an insurrection or invasion, the said special council may fill up any vacancy in the militia on the eastern shore, until the next session of assembly.

Governor and
council may
fill up vacan-
cies, &c.

III. **And be it enacted,** That in case of the refusal to act, or death or resignation of any member of the special council, the governor and council shall, and they are hereby required to proceed to the choice of another person, in the room and stead of the person so refusing, dying, or resigning.

Special coun-
cils allowance,
&c.

IV. **And be it enacted,** That the members of the said special council shall be allowed the sum of twenty shillings specie, for every day they shall attend in the execution of their trust, to defray their actual expences, and shall have power to appoint a clerk and doorkeeper, and allow them such reward as they may think just.

Indemnified
for expences,
&c.

V. **And be it enacted,** That the said special council shall be indemnified by the public for the actual expences they have incurred in the execution of their trust.

Continuance.

VI. This act to continue until the end of the next session of assembly.

C H A P. XXVII.

An ACT to explain and amend the act for the better security of the government.

Preamble.

WHEREAS male subjects of this state, who were above eighteen years of age, and were out of this state, at the time of passing the act for the better security of the government, on lawful purposes, in any of the neighbouring states, or in parts beyond the seas, and have returned into this state since the first day of March seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, or may hereafter return into this state, are not by the said act subject to the treble tax, and other disabilities imposed by the said act for their not taking, repeating, or subscribing, the oath of fidelity and support to this state, nor are such persons by the laws considered as nonjurors: For remedy whereof in future,

Persons re-
turning to
take the oath
within one
month, &c.

II. **Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,** That every such male person, who shall hereafter return into this state, unless he shall, within one month next after his return as aforesaid, take, repeat, and subscribe, the oath, or if a quaker, menonist, or dunker, the affirmation, of fidelity and support to this state, before the governor and council, or some magistrate of the city or county where he resides, shall be considered as a nonjuror within the intent of the said act, and shall be subject to the treble tax, and all other disabilities imposed on nonjurors by that or any other act or acts.

C H A P.