

1812.

21. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no officer, non-commissioned officer or private of the militia, in his attendance at, going to, or returning from muster, shall be subject to arrest for any civil matter.

Arrests for civil matters.

22. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any suit or suits shall be brought or commenced against any person or persons for any thing done in execution of the provisions of this act, the defendant or defendants may plead the general issue, and give this act and the special matter in evidence.

Acts committed under this law.

23. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no person shall be a commissioned officer in the militia of this state, unless he shall be a citizen of the United States and of this state; and each commissioned officer hereafter appointed, shall take the several oaths prescribed by the constitution of this state; and also, previous to their entering on the execution of their respective duties, take the following oath or affirmation: "I, A. B. do swear, or affirm, (as the case may be,) that I will be true and faithful to the state of Maryland, and that I will diligently and faithfully do and perform the several duties assigned to me, as _____ of the militia of this state, according to the best of my skill and abilities—So help me God;" which oaths shall be endorsed on the back of the commission.

Persons not citizens of this state, shall not be officers. Officers shall take oaths.

24. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any by-stander shall interrupt, molest or insult any officer or soldier while on duty at any muster, or shall be guilty of like conduct before any court-martial, the commanding officer, or such court, may cause him to be confined for the day; and he shall also be fined not less than one dollar, nor more than twenty dollars, in the discretion of such court-martial, as the nature of the case may require.

By-standers insulting officers or soldiers may be confined and fined.

25. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the brigade inspectors are hereby required, under a penalty not exceeding fifty dollars, at the discretion of a brigade court-martial, in each and every year hereafter, previous to the fifteenth of October, to make a correct return to the adjutant-general, of all arms and accoutrements, the property of the state; and also of all private arms and accoutrements; and designate the companies and corps by whom said arms and accoutrements are held; and it shall be the duty of the brigade inspector to attend the brigadier general when required; to receive and execute all orders necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this law; and upon refusal or neglect, to be subject to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, nor less than ten dollars, unless he

Brigade inspectors required to make returns of arms, &c Duties of the brigade inspector.