

Dec. Ses. 1816. *vided, that nothing contained herein shall be construed to annul any commission in the militia which may be in force as granted by authority of any state or territory in pursuance of the act herein recited, bearing date prior to the said first day of May next."*  
Therefore,

One colonel, &c to be appointed to each regiment.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the passage of this act, there shall be, (conformable to the aforesaid act of congress) one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, and one major, to each regiment of the militia of this state, consisting of two battalions; that where there shall be only one battalion, it shall be commanded by a major.*

Governor and Council to commission.

2. *And be it enacted, That the governor and council forthwith proceed to commission one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, and one major, to each regiment of the militia of this state, consisting of two battalions as aforesaid; Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to annul any commission in the militia which may now be in force under the act of assembly of this state, entitled, An act to regulate and discipline the militia of this state, and the several supplements thereto.*

CHAPTER 244.

Passed Feb. 5. **An act to provide for the Education of Poor Children in Kent, Talbot, Cecil, Anne-Arundel and Montgomery Counties.**

Preamble.

WHEREAS the want of an efficient and well digested system of county schools, calculated to diffuse the advantages of education throughout the state, has been long felt and sincerely regretted by every friend to morality and good government: And whereas, the funds arising from the tax on bank stock, and appropriated to the above purposes by an act of the general assembly passed at November session eighteen hundred and twelve, is not as yet sufficient to carry the wise and benevolent intentions of the legislature completely into effect; yet viewing the incalculable advantages enjoyed by some of our sister states, where extensive school funds enable them to disseminate the blessings of education to every class of their citizens, and believing that there is no practicable mode to accomplish so desirable an object in the present situation of the finances of the state, but by laying a moderate tax on the wealthy for the education of the poorer classes of society, Therefore,

Levy court to appoint seven trustees in each election district.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the levy court of the several counties aforesaid, be and are hereby empowered and directed, to appoint annually seven persons in each election district of the said counties, to be called The Trustees for the Education of Poor Children, and one person to be called the Treasurer of the school funds for each county.*

Trustees to lay off each district into seven subdivisions.

2. *And be it enacted, That the said trustees shall immediately after their appointment, proceed to lay off each election district into seven sub divisions, one of which to be allotted to each trustee, and when so laid off and allotted, each trustee shall make a census of the poor children above eight years of age within his sub-division, whose parents or those under whose care they may be are unable to pay for the tuition of such children, and said*