

That if any person or persons elected or appointed to be of the said council of safety, shall decline or refuse to act, or shall die before the next convention, the other members of the said council of safety, (being four at least) may elect and appoint one other in the room of each person who shall so decline or refuse to act or die, which person or persons so elected and appointed shall take the same oath, and have the same powers and authorities, in conjunction with the other members, as are given by this convention to the said council.

The journal of accounts was read and assented to.

*Ordered*, That the treasurer of the western shore pay the several claims allowed in the same.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning half after 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY, January 18, 1776.

Convention met. All members present as on yesterday, except Mr. W. Ennalls, Mr. G. Dasheill, Mr. Potter, Mr. Dickinson, and Mr. Mason. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

*Ordered*, That the treasurer of the western shore pay to Mr. Edward Parker of Cecil county, or his order, out of the bills of credit in his hands, three hundred pounds common money, to enable him to carry on his linen and woollen manufactory.

*Whereas*, it is necessary for securing the evidences of the property of the good people of this province, that the records of the land office, secretary's, and eommissary's offices, and also the records of Anne Arundel county court, should be removed from the city of Annapolis to some place of greater security.

*Resolved*, That the council of safety send the said records, packed in chests by the respective clerks, to some fit and secure place, first having prepared a proper house for the reception of the same, and that the said council commit the said records to the care and management of one of the clerks of the said offices respectively.

*Resolved*, That each of the said clerks so employed by the council of safety, do respectively take the care and management of the records of the office to which he belongs, and deliver copies of the said records to the people of this province, when thereunto required, upon being paid for the same.

*Resolved*, That any extraordinary expenses of the said clerks in taking care of the said records be paid by the convention of this province.

On motion, *Resolved*, That such young gentlemen as resort to the regular troops, in the quality of volunteers or cadets with the consent of the colonel of the battalion, for their improvement in the