

C H A P. XXVII.

An ACT to embody a number of select militia, and for immediately putting this state in a proper posture of defence.

This act directs 12,000 of the militia on the western, and 8000 on the eastern shore, to be selected, armed and disciplined. They are to consist of volunteers, engaging until the 10th of December, who are to be exercised twice a week, and to be called out at any time by the executive, and to be allowed $\frac{3}{9}$ in real money, or the value, for every day's exercise or service.

Five of the principal gentlemen on the eastern shore, are constituted a special council, any three of whom, on an actual invasion of the enemy, or when the state is *imminently threatened* with an invasion, may exercise, on the eastern shore, during such occasion, all the powers vested in the executive, except that of appointing or removing civil officers; and that all militia and military commissions shall be signed by the governor; but in case of actual invasion, they may also appoint an officer to act in any vacancy of the militia, until the pleasure of the executive be known.

C H A P. XXVIII.

An ACT to enable naval officers to grant registers for vessels.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is represented to this general assembly, that the merchants and traders of this state suffer inconvenience and expence, by being obliged to obtain registers for their vessels from the governor of this state, agreeable to the act to prevent frauds in commerce, and to direct the duty of naval officers :

Naval officer to grant registers, &c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland,* That any naval officer of this state may grant registers for any vessels, in the same manner as the governor was authorised to do by the said act, and may administer the oath or affirmation directed by the said act; and for this purpose, that blank registers, signed by the governor, and sealed with his seal, be transmitted to every naval officer of this state, who is required to make an entry of every register so granted by him, and to transmit a list thereof every three months to the governor and the council.

How tonnage of single decked vessels is to be ascertained, &c.

III. *And,* whereas by the said act the rule laid down for ascertaining the tonnage of vessels for the payment of duties is only applicable to double decked vessels; *Be it enacted,* That the tonnage of single decked vessels shall be ascertained by multiplying the length of the straight rabbet of the keel by the breadth of the beam, to be measured as directed by the said act, and the product thereof by the depth of the hold from the under part of the deck to the ceiling, and by dividing the whole by ninety-five; and the person obtaining any register shall, on oath or affirmation, inform the governor (or the naval officer granting the same) of the dimensions of the vessel, to the best of his knowledge and belief, in order that the real burthen of such vessel, whether with a double or single deck, may be ascertained agreeable to the rule laid down for that purpose.

See the act of April, 1783, ch. 1, and November, 1783, ch. 29, and 1784, ch. 79.

C H A P. XXIX.

An ACT to explain and to enforce the acts therein mentioned.

Viz. the acts to procure recruits to complete the battalions of this state in the service of the United States, and to raise an additional regiment if necessary, and to expedite the raising an additional battalion. This act further empowers the county lieutenants to levy, by their warrants, any sums that may have been engaged to substitutes by either individuals or classes, making an allowance for depreciation; and it permits the fifteen *per cent.* and the fines imposed on militia-men, to be paid in what is commonly called black state, and continental state money.

C H A P. XXX.

An ACT to regulate auctions.

To continue one year, &c. Repealed by the act of May, 1781, ch. 8.

C H A P. XXXI.

An ACT to authorise the lieutenants of the militia to appoint field days, and to direct the payment and mode of recovery of militia fines in specie, or the value.

To continue till the end of the next session. Continued for one year, &c. by the act of May, 1781, ch. 29. Expired.

C H A P. XXXII.

An ACT to explain that part of the act for sinking the quota required by congress of this state of the bills of credit emitted by congress, which relates to the duty imposed on ordinary licences.

C H A P.