

protection and security of this province, and for the aid and assistance of the neighbouring provinces, as they shall deem necessary and expedient.

That any officer of the said regular forces, minute-men or militia, may be suspended from the exercise of his commission by the said Council of Safety, and if the said Council of Safety shall think proper, they may displace any officer and appoint and commission another in his stead, and may on the death, resignation or removal of any officer in the regular forces, minute-men or militia, appoint and commission another in his stead; and the said Council of Safety may fill up all vacancies in the regular troops aforesaid, minute-men and militia, by whatever means occasioned.

That the said Council of Safety be authorized and empowered to draw out of the bills of credit emitted or ordered to be emitted by this Convention, (except such part thereof as is appropriated to call in and exchange the bills of credit emitted by the last Convention) any sum or sums which may by them be judged necessary to carry the several resolutions of this Convention into execution, for paying and discharging all contracts made or to be made for and on behalf of this province, and for the defence and protection of this province, or for paying and defraying the expences of any part of the said regular troops and minute-men which may be ordered to any of the neighbouring provinces,

That the said Council of Safety have power and authority to arrest, and on hearing, confine and imprison till the next Convention, all such persons within this province as shall have been or may be guilty of high and dangerous offences, tending to disunite the people of this province in their present opposition, or to destroy the liberties of America; and also have power and authority to hear, try and imprison till the end of the next Convention, or banish, all such offenders guilty of the offence aforesaid, as may be sent to them by the several committees of observation.

That the said Council of Safety have full power and authority to pardon all offenders upon whom sentence of death shall be pronounced by a court-martial, under the rules passed by this Convention for governing the forces raised or to be raised within this province, for the defence thereof.

That the said Council of Safety may call a meeting of the Convention of Maryland before the time to which it may be adjourned, and that any two members may call a meeting of the said Council of Safety.

That the said Council of Safety may draw upon the treasuries of the western and eastern-shores for all charges and expences incurred in the execution of their office.

That the said Council of Safety sit constantly if the service requires it, and that their ordinary sessions be held at the city of Annapolis or Baltimore-town, but the place of sitting may be changed at the discretion of the said Council to any other part of the province, where the public service may require it.

That every member of the said Council of Safety, before he enters on the execution of his office, take, before some justice of the peace, the following oath, to wit. "You A. B. do swear, that any matter or thing which shall come to your knowledge as a member of the Council of Safety which is ordered to be kept secret by a majority of the said Council of Safety, you will not divulge, unless to the deputies in Congress for this province, with the permission of the said Council of Safety, or to a Convention of delegates, or member of the said Council of Safety, or with the permission of the said Council of Safety or Convention. So help you GOD." And that the clerk of the said Council of Safety shall take an oath in the said form, except instead of the words "as a member of the Council of Safety," inserting, "as clerk to the Council of Safety."

That