

of the commissions of the officers in the militia at large may be prior in point of time. C H A P. XXVII, XXVIII.

XIII. And be it enacted, That the governor and council, for the purpose of establishing the relative rank of the lieutenants appointed by the general assembly, are to place each of their names in a ballot box, and draw them out one by one, and grant commissions to each of them, with a priority in point of date as they shall be successively drawn out of the ballot box; and those lieutenants who have since been appointed by the governor and council, shall rank after those appointed by the general assembly, according to the date of their respective commissions. Rank of lieutenants to be established by ballot, &c.

XIV. And be it enacted, That the governor and council, in case of invasion, may and they are hereby requested to appoint an officer on the respective shore, who shall take the command of the select militia, and as many of the militia at large as shall be ordered into service. Governor and council may appoint an officer to take command, &c.

1793
C H A P. XXVIII.

An ACT to enable naval officers to grant registers for vessels. *Suppl. 1782 April c. 12*

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: *1780 June c. 16* Preamble.

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. Naval officer may grant registers, &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:

IV. Be it enacted, That the tonnage of single decked vessels shall be ascertained, by multiplying the length of the strait rabbit 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. How tonnage of single decked vessels is to be ascertained, &c.