

MR. EDITOR,

AS the time approaches when we shall be called upon to give our suffrages for a new representation in the next provincial parliament, it behooves us to look about us and decide who is the most proper person to fill that station; a station rendered doubly important by the present threatening aspect of the times. It is to be hoped we will do so without taking into view the merits of the man and without reflection re-lect the man who has formerly represented us, merely because he has represented us, nor, as is to be hoped, will we desert him for the same reason—No, let us reflect, and let merit, honesty and integrity be the qualifications that shall recommend the man to our support; let us candidly and without any prejudice or bias on our minds, interrogate ourselves on the subject, and without any party motives decide who amongst the many who would willingly undertake to serve us is the best qualified from a knowledge of our situation, abilities and integrity, to be the man of our choice. In the first place I think we should examine well the merits and services of the man in whom we have formerly confided, either give our suffrages for the same man, or be ready at any time and at all times to give our reasons why we have withdrawn from him our confidence.—We hear of men here and men there, who are ready and willing to be our representatives; but who are they? I will ask are they men of education? Are they men of knowledge? Are they men who are qualified to give us laws by which when made we must be governed? Are they men in whose hands we can with safety intrust our rights and our liberties? No, I will answer my own questions; they may be honest men, they may be good farmers, they may be good neighbors, and good members of society, still they are not in the proper spheres, but make legislators of them and you take them out of their proper spheres, & in that capacity they can neither be useful to themselves nor to the community. I would by no means be so cruel as to take those honest yeomen from following the plough and place them where they would find themselves so awkwardly situated; no, I have formerly with the utmost confidence given my vote for ALLEN MACLEAN, Esq. and I am certain he will, at the ensuing election, with undiminished confidence, be entitled to my vote again; and should I be asked the question why I give him my support, I shall be always ready to give my reasons, and the best of reasons too, because I most conscientiously believe and know him to be a man of the nicest honor, of the strictest integrity, a man who is a friend to his country and who has its best interests at his heart—one who ought to and must possess our confidence; and unless a love of novelty or some other more strange propensity possesses itself of our brains, I am certain we shall unanimously come forward and support the man whom we have heretofore done ourselves honor in choosing, and who has done himself and his constituents honor in the discharge of his duty.—Hoping that these remarks may not be deemed impertinent, and sincerely wishing they might be attended with some good effects, I subscribe myself, Mr. Editor, your obedient humble servant.

JOHN BULL, JUN.
New York, April 4.

Latest from England.

Arrived at this port last evening the fast sailing ship *Lady Madison*, captain Swaine, from Liverpool, in the remarkably short passage of *eighteen days*. By this arrival London papers to the evening of the 12th and Liverpool to the 14th of March have been received.

Liverpool, March 14.—The last Anhalt mail has brought letters and papers containing intelligence which has excited considerable attention. Reports are again reiterated, and symptoms in greater number than ever are again detailed, of approaching quarrels and disturbances in the North of Europe. The foreign journals have been so long filled with these rumors, that they have almost ceased to excite either attention or interest; but it must be confessed that the conduct of many of the European Potentates (the only language, as Dr. Johnson said, that rarely lies) indicates great probabilities of a war, either impending or apprehended. The accumulation of French troops on the different German, Prussian, Danish and Polish frontiers, has increased to such a degree, that they are now estimated at 300,000 men! a calculation which, though undoubtedly exaggerated, shews that the march of troops and the activity of preparations have been most extraordinary. French troops, it is positively affirmed, are advancing in great force to take possession of the sea-ports of Prussia, in conformity to a convention recently concluded between the two monarchs. Another treaty has been concluded between France & Denmark, by which it is stipulated that Dan-

laws now in force, or hereafter to be made, respecting or against aliens.

XV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That so much of the said Act as directs that any Body or Detachment of Militia, which may be called out by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government, shall and may be detained on such service, for and during the space of six months at one time, and no longer, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

XVI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That at the expiration of six months, from the time of any such Detachment being called out as aforesaid, one third of the men of such Detachment shall be selected by ballot, and if relieved by an equal number of men, shall be discharged, and at the expiration of seven months from the time of calling out such Detachment, another third shall be selected, and if relieved, discharged in like manner, and at the expiration of eight months, the remaining third, if relieved, shall be discharged.

XVII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Colonel or other Officer Commanding any Regiment, Battalion, or Company, and he is hereby required to call out his Regiment, Battalion, or Company, whenever he shall be directed so to do, for the purpose of being Inspected or Reviewed, by any Inspecting Field Officer of Militia, or other Field Officers of the line, who may be sent for that purpose; and that Lieutenant Colonels in his Majesty's Army, serving with any part of the Militia in this Province, shall command all Militia Officers whatever, anything in the said in part recited Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

XVIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That every Militia man whose services may be necessary of his own volunteer Corps, now or hereafter to be raised, shall be exempted from serving as a Militia man under this or the before mentioned Act, whilst he shall belong to any such Corps as aforesaid, and also that every person serving in any flank Company, shall not be liable to any personal Arrest on any civil Process, or to serve as Juror or to perform duty as a Town or Parish Officer, or Statute labour on the High-ways, during the time he shall continue in such flank Companies, any law to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

XIX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That any Non-Commissioned Officer or Private Militia man, who in any engagement with an enemy, or by any accident or casualty which may occur while on, or performing any duty in actual service, shall be killed, and shall leave a Widow, or Child or Children lawfully begotten, his said Widow shall be entitled to receive during her widowhood, and in case of the death of such Widow, then the eldest Child, or Guardian, for the use of the child or children of such Non-Commissioned Officer or Private Militia man, until the youngest thereof, shall have attained the age of sixteen years, an annuity of five pounds lawful money of this Province, and also, that every Non-Commissioned Officer, or Private of Militia, who in any engagement with an enemy, or by any accident or casualty which may occur while on, or performing any duty in actual service, shall be wounded or disabled, so as to be rendered incapable of earning his livelihood, shall be allowed an annuity of nine pounds lawful money of this Province, during the time he shall continue under such incapacity.

XX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That so much of an Act passed in the forty-eighth year of his Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act to explain, amend and reduce to one Act of Parliament, the several laws now in being for the raising and training the Militia of this Province," as directs how Militia fines are to be disposed of, be and the same is hereby repealed.

XXI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That all sums of money arising from fines, forfeitures and penalties, by this or the above recited Act imposed, together with a list of such fines, forfeitures and penalties shall, as soon after the thirty first day of December in every year, as practicable, be transmitted by the Magistrate or Officer respectively receiving the same, to the Receiver General of this Province, to be disposed of as the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government, shall direct, to purposes only that shall respect the said Militia, and which shall be accounted for to the Crown, through the Commissioners of his Majesty's treasury, for the time being, as the Crown shall direct.

XXII. *Provided always,* That this present Act shall continue and be in force until the first day of January next, and from thence to the end of the then next ensuing Session of the Legislature of this Province, and no longer.

offender to pay a fine not exceeding five pounds, nor less than ten shillings, and in default of payment, to commit him to the common Gaol of the District, for a term not exceeding one month, nor less than ten days unless the fine is sooner by him paid.

X. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government, from time to time, and as often as occasion shall require, to make such regulations as he shall think necessary, for the care and custody of any Arms and Accoutrements provided and supplied in order to the instruction of the Militia men to be trained and exercised; and also from time to time as occasion may require, by any order or orders to be made and issued for that purpose, to declare and establish the dress and uniform, to be worn by any and every part of the Militia of this Province. *Provided always,* that nothing herein contained, shall be construed to oblige any Militia man to provide any uniform at his own expence.

XI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That so much of the said Act passed in the forty eighth year of the King, intituled, "An Act to explain, amend and reduce to one Act of Parliament, the several Laws now in being, for the raising and training the Militia of this Province," as directs that no Company of Militia shall consist of more than fifty men, shall be and the same is hereby repealed, and that every Company shall and may consist of a number not exceeding one hundred men.

XII. And whereas it may be convenient to form one or more Company or Companies of Riflemen in this Province. *Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government of this Province, to form and embody such Company or Companies, and employ the same on such duties as the necessity of the service may require.

XIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That every Officer of the Militia of this Province, shall on or before the fourth day of June next; and every Officer who may after that day be appointed, within eight days after he shall have received his Commission, before one or more of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, for the District to which his Regiment, Battalion or Company shall belong, take and subscribe the following Oath, to wit: *I A. B. do sincerely promise and swear, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his Majesty, King George the Third, as lawful Sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of this Province, as dependant thereon, and that I will defend him to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatsoever, which shall be made against his Person, Crown and Dignity, and particularly his Dominions in North America, and that I will do my utmost endeavour to disclose and make known to his Majesty, his heirs or successors, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies and attempts, which I shall know to be against him, or any of them, and to all this I do swear without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation, and renouncing all pardons and dispensations from any person or power whatsoever, to the contrary. So help me God.*

XIV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid* That it shall and may be lawful to & for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government, to order and direct that the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, of any and every Regiment, Battalion, Company or body of Militia in this Province, shall be called upon to take and subscribe the said Oath of Allegiance, and that upon receiving any orders for that purpose, it shall and may be lawful, to and for the Commanding Officer of such Regiment, Battalion or Company, and he is hereby required to call upon every Non-Commissioned Officer or Private of his Regiment, Battalion or Company, to take and subscribe the said Oath, before one or more of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the District to which such Regiment, Battalion, or Company shall belong, which Oath shall be administered free of expence, and that every Justice of the Peace administering such Oath, shall forward a Certificate thereof, to the Clerk of the peace of the District to be enrolled, which such Clerk of the Peace is hereby required to do free of expence; and if any Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, or Private, (having been required so to do) shall refuse or neglect to take and subscribe the said Oath, in manner hereby directed, upon conviction before any General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, or in time of actual Invasion or Insurrection, before any Court Martial, every such person or persons shall be deemed and taken to be an alien, and shall be liable and subject to any law or

any the lawful orders of his superior Officer when employed on Military duty, or shall quarrel with, or insult by abusive words, or otherwise, any Officer, or Non-Commissioned Officer, being in the execution of his duty, or otherwise neglect his duty whilst on duty as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Commanding Officer then and there present, to order every such offender or offenders to be taken into custody, and forthwith tried by a Court Martial, to be composed of three or more Officers of the said Militia, who, upon proof of the offence by the Oath of one or more credible witnesses or witnesses, (which Oath the President of the said Court Martial is hereby authorized to administer) shall and may order and sentence every such offender to pay a fine, not exceeding five pounds, nor less than five shillings, at the discretion of the Court, and according to the nature of the offence, and in default of payment, commit such offender to the common Gaol of the District, for a term not exceeding one month, nor less than three days, or until the amount of such fine shall be paid, any law to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That in all trials by any Court Martial, other than General Courts Martial, the person appointed to be President thereof, shall administer to each of the other Members, the following Oath: *You A. B. do swear that you will administer Justice to the best of your understanding in the matter now before you, according to the Militia Laws of this Province, and the evidence which shall be produced before you, without partiality, favour or affection.*—So help you God. And as soon as the said Oath shall have been administered by the President to the other Members, any one of the said Members shall administer the said Oath to the President.

VIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That whenever it shall so happen that there shall not be a sufficient number of Officers present to compose a Court as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Commanding Officer to detain such offender in custody, until a Court can be assembled, for the trial of such offender; Provided such Court can be obtained within twelve hours from the time of such confinement, and in case a Court as herein before directed, cannot be assembled within twelve hours, such offender shall be released from such confinement, and tried under the provisions of the Act of the King, intituled, "An Act to explain, amend and reduce to one Act of Parliament, the several Laws now in being, for the raising and training the Militia of this Province."

IX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any person or persons shall presume to disturb, interrupt, or molest any party of Militia, whilst on duty, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Commanding Officer of such party, to order any such person or persons to be carried before any one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, who shall be next to the place where the offence may be committed, who upon proof of the offence by the oath of one or more witnesses or witnesses, shall and may order and adjudge every such