

safety of their persons and families, and their mutual and general welfare.

III.

That each Colony shall enjoy and retain as much as it may think fit of its own present laws, customs, rights, privileges, and peculiar jurisdictions, within its own limits ; and may amend its own constitution, as shall seem best to its own Assembly or Convention.

IV.

That for the more convenient management of general interests, Delegates shall be elected annually in each Colony, to meet in General Congress, at such time and place as shall be agreed on in the next preceding Congress. Only where particular circumstances do not make a deviation necessary, it is understood to be a rule, That each succeeding Congress is to be held in a different Colony, till the whole number be gone through, and so in perpetual rotation ; and that accordingly, the next Congress after the present shall be held at Annapolis, in Maryland.

V.

That the power and duty of the Congress shall extend to the determining on war and peace, the entering into alliances, the reconciliation with Great Britain, settling all disputes between Colony and Colony, if any should arise, and the planting new Colonies where proper. The Congress shall also make such general ordinances as thought to be necessary for the general welfare, which particular assemblies cannot be competent, but those that may relate to our general commerce or general currency, to the establishment of posts, the regulation of our common forces : the Congress shall also have the appointment of all Officers civil and military, appertaining to the General Confederacy, such as General Treasurer, Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

VI.

All charges of wars, and all other general expences to be incurred for the common welfare, shall be defrayed out of a common treasury, which is to be supplied by each Colony, in proportion to its number of male polls between 16 and 60 years of age : the taxes for paying that proportion are to be laid and levied by the laws of each Colony.

VII.

The number of Delegates to be elected, and sent to the Congress by each Colony, shall be regulated, from time to time,