

returning home without any demand for ferryage whatever, under the penalty of *ten shillings*, for each and every offence, to be recovered by the party complaining before any one of His Majesty's Justices of the peace, upon the oath of one credible witness.

XXII. And whereas arms and accoutrements have been issued from His Majesty's Stores for the use of the Militia in several parts of this Province, and it is necessary to provide for the security of those arms and accoutrements, and such as may hereafter be issued, be it further enacted, that such arms so issued or which may hereafter be issued, shall be branded distinctly on the broad part of the butt with the letter M and the name of the County of the Militia of which they are issued, also with a capital letter to denote the Company to which they belong, and a number to distinguish each firelock to its owner, such brand to be provided by the commanding officer of the Battalion; and all Captains or other Officers commanding Companies, shall be and they are hereby made responsible (except in case of unavoidable accident) for the safe keeping and return (if called for) of such arms and accoutrements as were issued to the men in their respective Companies, or may hereafter be so issued; and such Captains or Officers commanding Companies are hereby empowered and required to take into their possession all such arms and accoutrements, except where the person to whom they have been, or shall be issued, shall give bond with sufficient surety to our sovereign Lord the King, in the penalty of *five pounds*, conditioned for the safe keeping, and the return of the said arms and accoutrements; which bonds so given, shall be lodged with the Clerks of the Peace in the respective Counties, who are hereby required to receive and file the same in their respective offices, which person so giving bond as aforesaid, shall be intitled to keep possession of such arms and accoutrements while he continues in the same Company, and in case of the removal of any such person from such Company, his arms and accoutrements, shall be returned to the Captain or other officer commanding the said Company, who shall give a receipt for the same to the person so delivering the said arms; and if any person having such arms and accoutrements, in his possession, shall vend, pledge, or exchange the same or any part thereof (without leave of the officer commanding the Company to which such person belongs) or shall convey, or cause the same, or any part thereof, to be conveyed out of the Province, or shall convey or cause the same to be conveyed on board any boat, ship, or vessel, with intent to have the same carried out of the Province, or if the master of such boat, ship, or vessel, shall wilfully receive into his boat, ship, or vessel, any such arms or accoutrements so intended to be conveyed out of the Province, or if any person shall purchase the said arms and accoutrements, every person so offending, shall for each and every offence, forfeit and pay the sum of *ten pounds*, to be recovered upon conviction before any two Justices of the Peace, upon the oath of one or more credible witness, or witnesses, and levied by

Arms to be marked,

Captains made responsible for arms, and empowered to take the same into their possession, unless the persons to whom they are issued will give bonds.

Penalty of £10, for selling, exchanging or conveying away any arms and accoutrements lent by government.