

BACKGROUNDS OF SELECTIVE SERVICE

Military Obligation:
THE AMERICAN TRADITION

*A Compilation of the Enactments of Compulsion
From the Earliest Settlements
of the Original Thirteen Colonies in 1607
Through the
Articles of Confederation 1789*

SPECIAL MONOGRAPH NO. 1

VOLUME II

PART 2. CONNECTICUT ENACTMENTS

THE SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

1947

Forming, and Regulating the Militia, &c. 157

That the Colonel, or Chief Officer of each Regiment, as often as he shall see Cause, shall Require the Captain, or Chief Officer of each Company in his Regiment, to Meet at such Time, and Place as he shall Appoint, to Confer with them, and give in Charge such Orders as shall by them, or the major part of them, be Judged Meet for the better Ordering Military Affairs, and promoting Military Skill, and Discipline in said Regiment.

Colonels to Order when Captains &c. to meet him, &c.

And the said Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Major of each Regiment are hereby Impowred, and Directed to Dignify the several Companies belonging to their Respective Regiments.

The Companies to be Dignified.

That the Colonel, or Chief Military Officer of each Regiment is hereby Authorized, and Required to Muster together the several Companies in his Regiment, or such a Number of them as he shall Judge proper, Once in Four Years, for Regimental Exercise: Which Musters the several Captains, or Chief Officers of said Companies are Required to Attend with their Companies, on the Penalty of *Five Pounds*.

Once in four Years the Regiments to Muster, on penalty, &c.

Which said Penalty shall be Distrained by Warrant from the Chief Officer of said Regiment, directed to either of the Constables of the Town in which said Captain, or Chief Officer of such Company dwells; and to be paid in to the Treasury of said Town.

Fine how paid

Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Male Persons from Sixteen Years of Age to Fifty, shall bear Arms, and duly Attend all Musters, and Military Exercises, of the Respective Troops, and Companies where they are Inlisted, or do Belong, (Except Assistants, Justices of the Peace, the Secretary, Church Officers, the President, Tutors, and Students at the Collegiate School, Masters of Art, Allowed Physicians, and Surgeons, Representatives, or Deputies for the Time being; School-Masters, Attornies at Law, One Miller to each Grist-Mill, constant Herdsmen, and Mariners who make it their constant Business to go to Sea, Sheriffs, and Constables, for the Time being, constant Ferry-men, Lame Persons, or Others Disabled in Body producing a Certificate thereof from Two able Physicians, or Surgeons, to the Acceptance of the Two Chief Officers of the Company whereto the Persons seeking Dismission appertains; or of the Chief Officer of the Regiment to which such Company belongs, and *Indians*, and *Negroes*;))

All Male persons from 16 Years old to 50, to bear Arms, Excepting, &c.

And every Person Listed in any Troop, or Company shall so Continue, and Attend all Duty in such Troop, or Company; or otherwise suffer the Penalty hereafter provided, until Orderly Dismissed, or Removed out of the Town, or Precinct: And in case of Removal into the Precinct of another Company in the same Town, to produce a Certificate under the Hand of the Chief Officer of the Company in the Precinct where he is Removed, that he is Listed there.

Every Listed Trooper, or Soldier to attend Duty, &c.

That every Listed Soldier, and other House-Holder, (Except Troopers) shall always be Provided with, and have in continual Readiness, a Well-fixed Firelock, the Barrel not less than Three Feet, and a Half Long, or other good Fire-Arms, to the Satisfaction of the Commission Officers of the Company to which he doth belong, or in the Limits of which he dwells, a good Sword, or Cutlase, a Worm, Primer, and Priming-wire fit for his Gun, a Cartridge-box, One Pound of good Powder, Four Pounds of Bullets fit for his Gun, and Twelve Flints, on penalty of *Three Shillings* for want of such Arms, and Ammunition, as is hereby Required, and *One Shilling* for each Defect; and the like Sums, or Sums for every Four Weeks he shall remain Unprovided.

All Householders & Listed Soldiers to provide and keep Arms and Ammunition

That