for the term of two years, unless sooner revoked by the state society. He shall reside in the territory, while in the exercise of his office,—shall be one of the council of the agent,—shall co-operate with and assist him in the discharge of his duties, and, in the event of his absence or death, shall exercise his authority.

SEC. 14. *Be it enacted and ordained*, That it shall be the duty of the agent, to obey and to carry into effect, all the ordinances and regulations of the state society, which are communicated to him: to exercise a general superintendence over the concerns, police and officers of the territory: to make a semi-annual report to the state society, of the condition and relations of the territory, together with an account of all his receipts and expenditures on behalf of the society; to recommend such laws as, from time to time, he may see proper, to the state society; to negotiate and sign all treaties with the natives; to execute all conveyances on behalf of the state society, and superintend the correspondence of the territory. He shall also be the commander-in-chief of the militia of the territory, and issue commissions to all officers in the same below the rank of general officers. All general officers shall be appointed and commissioned by the state society; all company officers shall be elected by the companies respectively, and all intermediate officers shall be appointed by the agent. The agent and assistant agent, shall have all the authority of justices of the peace, except in case of small debts (hereafter mentioned.)

SEC. 15. *Be it enacted and ordained*, That in cases of necessity, where no rule has been made by the state society, the agent, in council, is authorized to make the necessary rules or regulations, of which he shall, by the first opportunity, inform the board of managers of the state society for their approbation, and they shall be in force, until they are revoked by the board of managers and notice of their revocation is received by the agent.

SEC. 16. *Be it enacted and ordained*, That there shall be appointed by the agent, from time to time, a secretary, whose commission shall continue in force one year, unless sooner revoked, and who shall reside in the territory during the exercise of his office. He shall take charge of and carefully keep, all papers, records, and archives of the territory, relating to the government; shall be present at, and exactly record the proceedings of the agent in council; shall publish all the ordinances and notices of the government, so that the people may be informed thereof; issue the agent's orders, as he may direct; keep a copy of the correspondence and

reports of the agent; record in a proper book, all treaties made by the agent; and attend to the recording, by the register, of all other instruments, proper to be recorded, in which the government is interested; and perform generally, such duties as may be imposed upon him by the agent, in conducting the internal affairs and correspondence of the territory.

SEC. 17. *Be it enacted and ordained*, That there shall be appointed by the agent a competent number of justices of the peace, whose commission shall continue in force for one year, unless sooner revoked, for cause. It shall be their duty to take cognizance of all breaches of the peace, or the laws of the territory; to issue their writ to arrest offenders; to take from them security, in all bailable cases, to appear before the proper tribunal, and, in default of security being given, to send the offender to the agent with a certificate of the default; to take security to keep the peace, when allegation is made, upon oath or affirmation, before them, that it will be broken; to issue search warrants; to act judicially, in all criminal cases, and where the offence is theft, and the value of the article stolen does not exceed one dollar, sentencing the offender to restoration of five times the value of the thing stolen, and in default of restitution, sending the offender to the agent, in the custody of a constable, with a certificate of conviction, that such punishment may be inflicted, as may be provided by law in such cases. *Provided*, that no warrant or writ shall be issued, in any criminal matter, or for any alleged breach of the laws of the territory, whereby the liberty of an individual may be restrained, or his or her house or premises searched, except the offence shall be committed in view of the justice of the peace, (when he shall personally arrest the offender, without the form of a writ or warrant,) or upon the oath or affirmation of a credible person, who shall testify to the facts from personal knowledge, or shall state circumstances, which, in the opinion of the justice, make it probable that an offence has been committed, or that there is reason to suspect, that stolen property is in the place (which must be particularly described in the writ or warrant) authorized to be searched.

Justices of the peace shall have jurisdiction in all civil causes, where the amount in dispute between the parties does not exceed twenty dollars, and all fines not exceeding that amount, may be collected before them. They shall have power to summon witnesses at the request of parties, in any cause before them, and to fine them, not exceeding ten dollars for non-attendance, when sum-

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XIII. Colonization Pamphlets

1. The Declaration of Rights,
The Constitution of the
State of Md. in Liberia
(rough draft, engrossed copy, printed copy)