

register of the board for every renewal; and the board may renew any license or not as they may think proper.

Their oath. SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That every member of the said board before he proceeds to examine any person applying for a warrant as a pilot under this act, shall take the following oath, or affirmation, (to be administered by any justice of the peace,) to wit: 'I, — —, do swear, (or solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm,) that I will impartially examine and inquire into the capacity, skill and experience, of any applicant or applicants, in the art of piloting in Chesapeake bay, and the rivers thereof, and will admit them as I find them qualified, or reject them if I shall find them unqualified, without favour, affection or reward.'

May make and use a common seal.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted,* That the said board may make and use a common seal, and alter and renew the same at their pleasure, and may appoint a register, who shall enter in a book to be provided for that purpose, all applications to, and all other proceedings of, the said board; and the register shall counter-sign all warrants for pilots granted by the board, and every such warrant shall be under the seal of the said board.

No person to act as pilot unless he keeps a boat 26 feet keel.

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted,* That it shall not be lawful for any person to act as a pilot, notwithstanding his having obtained a warrant as aforesaid, unless he, or the company to which he belongs, shall keep one sufficient boat, of twenty-six feet keel straight rabbit at the least, and decked and well found, under the penalty of one hundred and fifty dollars for every vessel such person shall undertake to conduct or pilot; and the name of every boat, and the place she belongs to, shall be put on her stern, and on her mainsail and foresail, in large letters.

Penalty for acting without license.

SEC. 6. *And be it enacted,* That if any person, not having a warrant as a pilot agreeable to this act, shall presume to take upon himself to conduct or pilot any vessel bound from any port in this state to sea, or coming from sea and bound up any river of this state, and to any port thereof, every such person shall forfeit one hundred and fifty dollars, and such person shall also be liable for all damages occasioned by his undertaking to conduct or pilot any such vessel, by action at common law; *Provided,* that this prohibition shall not extend to prevent any person from assisting any vessel in distress, if such person shall deliver up such vessel to any pilot who shall come on board, and offer to conduct or pilot such vessel, and he shall pay such person one-half of the fees received by him for the pilotage of such vessel.

Proviso.

Six may be in partnership.

SEC. 7. *And be it enacted,* That not more than six pilots shall be in partnership, under the penalty of two hundred dollars each.