ENTED,
SUBSCRIBER,
RICK HOUSE, 100
wo rooms, twenty fire-
under the whole build-
in the wettest seasons;
ty and in general large;
ty-four feet square; the
y, about the center of
directly between two
ommoded by any neigh-
is frequently the case in
r the accommodation of
ED, a two-story BRICK
, well calculated to ac-
Its situation is such that
node you. I have like-
o acres of good land, in
ion of this land will be
ill view the place before
offers he may have any
the purchase money, by
THOMAS HYDE.
789.

December 1, 1789.
hat he is compelled to
hunting and trespassing
on West and Rhode ri-
ICHARD SPRIGG.

eetser,
ANUFACTURER,
ns the public in general,
ular, that he has opened
t door to Mr. Charles
er, where he carries on
branches in the neatest
and on the lowest terms.
h the best materials, and
business with the greatest
hopes by his attention to
ho please to favour him
1789.

f K.
Loan Office,
Final Sets
and Indents,
Depreciation or
o pay for Pos-
the State, may
ny time, and
ular Amount
by
s Williams.

BARTER,
Land in Pa-
to 1000 Acres,
rt and Monon-
Virginia, will
for Cash, Pro-
f Certificates or
nds, Land, or
n the State of
or Terms apply
J. W.

ASED,
ROUND in this city, on
the streets called Taber-
nes Ringgold's, and Law-
n Callahan's. The terms
o the subscriber.
JAMES STEUART.

OLIS:
EDERICK and
GREEN.

(XLVth YEAR.) THE (No. 2244.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1790.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, December 20 1789.

ORDERED, That the bill, entitled, An Act for the better administration of justice in the several county courts of this state, be referred to the next session of assembly, and published three weeks in the Maryland Gazette, and Baltimore Journal, for the consideration of the people.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

A bill, entitled, An ACT for the better administration of justice in the several county courts of this state.

WHEREAS it has been found by experience, that the present system for the administration of justice in the county courts of this state, is attended with great inconvenience, delay and expence, to suitors, witnesses and jurymen; and an uniformity of legal decisions ought to be obtained, as far as the circumstances of the state will permit;

Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That this state shall be divided into five districts, to be numbered and distinguished as follows; that is to say, Prince-George's, Calvert, Charles, and Saint-Mary's counties, shall be the first district; Cæcil, Kent, Queen-Anne's, and Talbot counties, shall be the second district; Anne-Arundel, Baltimore, and Harford counties, shall be the third district; Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester counties, shall be the fourth district; and Washington, Frederick, Montgomery, and Allegany counties, shall be the fifth district.

And be it enacted, That two county courts shall be held in each county within the said districts in every year, and shall commence and be held as follows; in Prince-George's county on the first Mondays in April and September, in Calvert county on the third Mondays in March and August, in Charles county on the third Mondays in April and September, in Saint-Mary's county on the first Mondays in March and August, in Cæcil county on the first Monday in March and second Monday in October, in Kent county on the third Monday in March and the fourth Monday in October, in Queen-Anne's county on the third Monday in May and second Monday in November, in Talbot county on the second Monday in June and the fourth Monday in November, in Anne-Arundel county on the second Mondays in April and September, in Baltimore county on the third Monday in March and the second Monday in November, in Harford county on the first Mondays in March and August, in Caroline county on the first Monday in March and the second Monday in October, in Dorchester county on the third Monday in March and fourth Monday in October, in Somerset county on the third Monday in May and second Monday in November, in Worcester county on the second Monday in June and fourth Monday in November, in Washington county on the second Monday in April, and the first Monday in December, in Frederick county on the fourth Monday in March and third Monday in November, in Montgomery county on the second Monday in March and first Monday in November, and in Allegany county on the fourth Monday in April and the third Monday in December.

And be it enacted, That the governor and the council be authorised and requested to appoint and commission, for each of the said districts, one person of integrity, experience, and sound legal knowledge, (who shall be styled in the commission chief justice of the county courts in such district,) and to appoint and commission, in each of the counties of this state, two persons of integrity, experience and knowledge, residents of the county for which they were appointed, who shall be styled in the commission associate justices of the county court of the county for which they shall be appointed; and the said justices shall hold their commission during good behaviour, and may be removed for misbehaviour in the same manner as the chancellor and the judges may be removed agreeably to the constitution of this state, and not otherwise.

And be it enacted, That the county courts in each district shall be composed of the chief justice of the district in which each county shall be, and of the two associate justices appointed for such counties respectively; and that the said county court, or the chief justice alone, or the two associate justices, shall have, possess and execute, the same power, jurisdiction and duties, now vested in, or required of the county courts of this state, except in the cases hereafter excepted, (and an appeal, or writ of error, shall lie to the general court, in the same manner, and under the same regulations, as is now or shall hereafter be allowed by law from the county courts to the general court); and any one of the said associate justices may hold and adjourn the said court, and empannel and charge the grand jury, and direct process to issue on any presentment or indictment found in the said court, or on any petition or complaint exhibited to the said court, and he may direct subpoenas to issue for witnesses to attend the said court, or attachments of contempt to issue against witnesses or jurors for non-attendance, and he may direct any witness to be sworn to the grand jury, and receive any presentment or indictment from the grand jury, and take recognizances for the appearance of witnesses, or any person presented or indicted, and he may commit any person presented or indicted for want of security, and he may direct judgments to be entered on confession, or non sum informatus.

And be it enacted, That all causes, pleas, process and proceedings, relative to any cause, civil or criminal, which shall be returnable to, or depending before, the several county courts of this state, when this act shall commence, shall be returned to the several county courts constituted by this act, at the times herein before appointed for the holding of each court, and shall be heard, tried, and determined therein, in the same manner as if no change had been made in the said courts.

And be it enacted, That all commitments and recognizances for all felonies, crimes, offences or misdemeanors, committed in the several counties, and triable by law in the county courts, shall be returned to the justices appointed in virtue of this act, by the justice making such commitment, or taking such recognizance, on the first day of holding the county court of their county; and all sheriffs, clerks, and all other civil officers, shall execute and perform the same offices and duties, under the same penalties, as they are now obliged by law to perform and execute under the county courts as now established.

And be it enacted, That no action to be commenced in any county court appointed in virtue of this act, shall continue longer than the end of the first court after the imparlance court, unless such cause as the law may allow for the continuance of suits beyond the time limited shall appear to the satisfaction of the court.

And be it enacted, That after the commencement of this act, no commission shall issue to any person, except to the said several chief justices and associate justices, to be a justice of any county court, but only to be a justice of the peace of such county; and upon the issuing of any commission, the justices appointed therein shall assemble as soon as convenient at the court house of their county, and qualify as heretofore, but if any of the persons appointed are absent at the time of meeting, they may qualify at any time before any one of them who have before qualified; and every person appointed a justice of the peace, as such, shall have the same power and jurisdiction as any justice of any county court now hath by law out of court; and the justices of the peace appointed for any county, and any three or more of them, shall meet at the court-house of their county at the time appointed by law for laying their county assessment, and they are hereby required, then and there to lay the assessment of their county as heretofore, and the clerk of their county shall attend them for that purpose; and the said justices of the peace shall and they are hereby required to perform and execute in their respective counties all the duties and offices committed to the county courts by the law for the inspection of tobacco; and each of the said justices of the peace shall have and receive at the rate of ten shillings a day while attending on the public service aforesaid, to be assessed in their county assessment.

And be it enacted, That every justice appointed and commissioned in virtue of this act, shall, before he acts as such, take the oaths of fidelity and support to this state, as required by the constitution and laws thereof, provided he hath not before taken the same, and also the oath of justice as required by the act of February session, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven.

And be it enacted, If the chief justice of any county court, appointed and commissioned in virtue of this act, shall refuse to act, or after acceptance shall resign, die, or be rendered incapable to act, or if any associate justice, appointed and commissioned in virtue of this act, shall refuse to act, or after acceptance shall resign, die, be rendered incapable to act, or remove out of the county, the governor for the time being, with the advice and consent of the council, are hereby authorised and requested to appoint and commission another fit and proper person to fill such vacancy.

And be it enacted, That every chief justice of any county court, appointed and commissioned in virtue of this act, shall have, within the district for which he shall be appointed, all the powers and jurisdiction of a justice of the peace, except only as to the hearing and determining in the case of small debts out of court; and every associate justice, appointed and commissioned in virtue of this act, shall have, within the county for which he shall be appointed, all the powers and jurisdiction of a justice of the peace out of court, except as last aforesaid.

And be it enacted, That the said chief justice, or either of the associate justices, may, in his chambers direct the clerk to enter judgments by confession, or non sum informatus, and such judgments shall be as legal and valid as if entered in court during its sitting.

And be it enacted, That every chief justice, appointed and commissioned in virtue of this act, shall receive as a compensation for his services as follows, to wit; for the first district at the rate of three hundred and ninety-five pounds current money per annum, to be paid by Prince-George's, Calvert, Charles, and Saint-Mary's counties, in proportion to the amount of assessable property in each of the said counties respectively, the said amount to be ascertained in each year by reference to the last general assessment of property; for the second district at the rate of the same sum per annum, to be paid by Cæcil, Kent, Queen-Anne's, and Talbot counties, in the same proportion, to be ascertained as aforesaid; for the third district at the rate of the same sum per annum, to be paid by Anne-Arundel, Baltimore, and Harford counties, in the same proportion, to be ascertained as aforesaid; for the fourth district the same sum, to be paid by Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester counties, in the same proportion, to be ascertained as aforesaid; for the fifth district at the rate of the same sum per annum, to be paid by the counties of Washington, Frederick, Montgomery, and Allegany, in the same proportion, to be ascertained as aforesaid; *provided always,* that until the next general assessment of property takes place the said counties of Washington and Allegany shall be considered, with respect to the said assessment, as if they were still the same county; and the justices of the peace of the several counties shall assess, in their county assessment, the sums payable by their respective counties as aforesaid, with a commission of five per cent. for collection, which said sums shall be collected with the county assessment, and paid by the collectors to the chief justice of their respective district on or before the first day of February next ensuing the laying of the said assessment.

And be it enacted, That the clerk of every county shall, yearly, on or before the first day of May, certify under his hand and seal of office, the amount of the assessable property in his county, and lodge one certificate thereof with the clerks of each county in his district, under the penalty of twenty pounds current money.

And be it enacted, That each associate justice, appointed and commissioned in virtue of this act, shall receive, as a compensation for his services, the sum of fifteen shillings current money for every day he shall attend the duty of his office; and the said allowance shall be assessed in his county assessment.

And be it enacted, If any collector shall not pay the allowance to any chief justice intrusted to his collection by virtue of this act, within thirty days after the same shall become due, it shall be lawful for the person not paid to file an attested copy of his bond in the general, or any county court, with an affidavit of the sum due, and a demand and refusal of payment, and thereupon execution shall issue against such collector and his securities, and if payment be alleged, the court may, on motion, inquire into the fact in a summary way, and commit or release, or give such other remedy as the nature of the execution and justice may require.

And, Whereas by divers acts of assembly the justices of the county courts are authorised and enjoined to do sundry matters and things at the county courts to be held in certain months in the said acts mentioned, and in many instances there is an alteration of the time of holding the said county courts by this act, *Be it enacted,* That in all cases where the courts are by this act directed to be held in different months from those mentioned in the said acts of assembly, or any of them, it shall be lawful for the justices of the county courts, to be commissioned in virtue of this act, to do and perform all such matters and things at such time in each year as they shall think convenient, either at their court in course, or an adjourned court.

And, As a fund towards payment of the above annual sums to the chief justices of the several districts, *Be it enacted,* That the following taxes shall be paid, in current money, on the following process and proceedings in the county courts of this state, to wit; on every writ of ejectment, partition, or dower, seven shillings and six-pence; on every writ of trespass quare clausum fregit, five shillings; on every other original writ, two shillings and six-pence; on every appeal, writ of error, habeas corpus, cum causa, or certiorari, seven shillings and six-pence; on every commission to mark and bound lands, seven shillings and six-pence.

And be it enacted, That the said tax shall be paid to the clerks of the respective counties at the time of issuing the said process or commissions, or of entering the said appeals, or producing the said writs of error, habeas corpus, or certiorari, by the persons applying for the said process or commissions, or desiring the said appeal to be entered, or producing the said writs of error, habeas corpus, or certiorari, and shall be allowed and taxed in the costs of suit; and the clerk of every county shall, every six months, settle his accounts, on oath or affirmation, with the treasurer of his shore, and shall pay the sum adjusted to the said treasurer, for the