

ton county, Messieurs Charles Swearingen, John Barnes, John Stull, William Good, and John Sellers. For Montgomery county, Messieurs John Murdock, Richard Brooke, Samuel Thomas the 3d, Richard Thompson, and Richard Wootton.

Duty of com-
missioners.

VII. And be it enacted, That the said commissioners shall meet together, at the place where the county court is usually held in their respective counties, on the last Monday in January, seventeen hundred and eighty-one, or as soon thereafter as they may have notice of this act, and as often after as shall be necessary; and the said commissioners, at their said first meetings, may appoint a clerk, who shall be paid twelve shillings and six-pence per day for his service; and shall, by warrant under their hands, appoint one able, discreet, and skilful inhabitant in each hundred of their counties, having in the county property above the value of two hundred pounds, to be assessor in the same hundred; and the said commissioners shall enter, in a book to be kept by them for that purpose, the name of the person nominated assessor in each hundred within their respective counties, and shall, immediately after such nomination, appoint a certain day and place, not exceeding seven days thereafter (of which three days notice shall be given by the said commissioners to each assessor) for the said assessors to appear before them, and at their appearance the said commissioners shall openly read, or cause to be read, this act, and shall inform and instruct them in what manner they ought to make their assessment, in what form they ought to return their certificates thereof, and how to proceed in the execution of this act, according to the true meaning thereof; and the said commissioners shall also appoint a place, and a certain day between the first and fifteenth day of March next, for the said assessors to appear before them and bring in their assessments in writing.

Duty of assessors.

VIII. And be it enacted, That every assessor shall inform himself, by all lawful ways and means, of the names and surnames of every person residing in his hundred, whose property is chargeable with the rate imposed by this act, or whose names are to be returned in his certificate, and of all property therein, except as before excepted, and shall immediately on such information proceed to value such property, agreeable to the directions of this act; and each assessor shall bring with him, at the time and to the place appointed by the commissioners for his appearance, a certificate in writing of the particulars of all property in his hundred, and of his valuation and assessment thereof; in which shall be expressed the names and number of acres of the land, the number of slaves of each description within this act, and the weight of plate valued to each person, with the valuation of each of those species of property, and also the number of horses, black cattle, sheep and hogs respectively, and their value, with the value of the other property of each person, and the value of the whole property, in the same hundred of each person, summed and extended, and the whole value of the property in the hundred summed; and where the assessor cannot discover to whom any particular property doth belong, the same property shall be valued and mentioned in the certificate, and it shall also be therein noted, that the owner is unknown; and the said assessors shall also return with their said certificates an alphabetical list of the names of all persons by him so assessed, and also the names of all the free male persons above eighteen years of age residing in his hundred.

IX. And