

suits brought for acts done in pursuance of this law.

the suit shall be commenced within six months after the fact committed; and the defendant in any suit may plead the general issue, and give this act and the special matter in evidence, and that the same was done in pursuance and by authority of this act; and if it shall appear so to be done, or if any suit shall be brought after the limited time, then the jury shall find for the defendant, and if the plaintiff shall become non-suit, or suffer a discontinuance, or if a verdict shall pass, or upon demurrer judgment shall be given against him, the defendant shall recover treble costs of suit as in other cases at law.

Persons removing from any county to give particular account of his property.

SEC. 28. *And be it enacted*, That from and after the passage of this act, every person who shall or may remove to any county within this state, from the county in which his or her property hath or may have been assessed, or from any other place without the state, and whose personal property hath not or may not have been assessed in the county to which he or she hath or may remove, every such person shall, when required by the collector of the county, or his deputy, in which his or her personal property under his or her care and management doth or may lie, to give to such collector, or his deputy, a full and particular account of his or her personal property in the said county, and of all personal property in his or her possession, or under his or her care and management, liable to be assessed, and which before the time of such request shall not have been assessed in the said county, and the name of the person to whom the same belongs; and if any person shall refuse, or after reasonable notice shall neglect to render such account, he or she shall be subject to the same penalties imposed on persons refusing or neglecting to deliver an account to any assessor under this act.

Collectors shall inform themselves by all lawful means of property, &c.

SEC. 29. *And be it enacted*, That every collector, or his deputy, shall inform himself by all lawful ways and means of all personal property as aforesaid in his county, (except the property by this act excepted,) and shall immediately on such information proceed to value such property agreeably to the directions of this act, and shall return at the time and at the place to be appointed by the commissioners of the tax of the county of which he is a collector, a certificate in writing of the particulars of all the said personal property in his county, and of his valuation of the same, in which shall be expressed the number of slaves of each description agreeably to this act, and the weight of plate; and shall return with his certificate an alphabetical list of all such persons whose property he shall value.

Collector's bonds.

SEC. 30. *Provided always, and be it enacted*, That every collector, or deputy collector, before he proceeds on the duties by this act imposed, shall take the following oath, or affirmation,