

and the fourth Monday in November for each and every year; and that all causes, pleas, process and proceedings, civil and criminal, returnable to or depending before the said county court, shall be returnable to the third Monday in May, and the fourth Monday in November, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

AN ACT to abolish the Levy Court, provide for the appointment of Commissioners of Somerset County, and prescribing their duties.—1837, ch. 87.

See the next law.

Preamble. WHEREAS, it is represented to the general assembly that the interests of the citizens of Somerset county will be promoted, the business of the county simplified and condensed, and a reduction of taxes effected by abolishing the levy court and the board of commissioners of the tax, and transferring all the powers and duties now exercised by said court and said board of commissioners of tax, to a board of county commissioners; therefore,

Governor to appoint seven commissioners. SEC. 1. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That from and after the passage of this act, it shall be the duty of the governor, with the consent of the senate, and they are hereby required annually to appoint seven of the best qualified persons, citizens of Somerset county, to be styled the Commissioners for Somerset County; and the persons appointed commissioners as aforesaid, shall, out of their own body, elect a president; and in case of the death, resignation, refusal to act, or removal out of the county of either of the commissioners appointed as aforesaid, the governor shall supply the vacancy occasioned by such death, resignation, refusal or removal, as the case may be.

President.

Vacancy.

Oath of office. SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That every commissioner appointed as aforesaid, shall, before he enters on the duties as aforesaid, take and subscribe, before some judge or justice of the peace, an oath or affirmation, that he will faithfully, diligently and impartially exercise the powers and perform the duties of commissioner for Somerset county, as authorized and enjoined by law, according to the best of his skill and judgment, without being influenced by favour, affection, hatred, malice or ill will; and that he will, in making all appointments to office, vote for such persons among those willing to accept, as in his judgment and belief shall be most capable and best qualified to perform the duties of such office; which oath shall be recorded in a book to be kept among the records of Somerset county court.

Corporate powers given. SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That the commissioners appointed as aforesaid and their successors, shall be and they are hereby