

CHAPTER 76.

AN ACT to regulate the Fees of the Registers of Wills in the several counties of this state.

Supplanted by 1826, ch. 247.

CHAPTER 87.

AN ACT for the direction of Sheriffs and Coroners in the return of Jurors, and for the better regulation of Juries.

A supplement, 1798, ch. 94.

WHEREAS the integrity, experience and intelligence of jurors, Preamble.
is indispensably necessary for the due administration of justice :
And whereas the sheriffs frequently return jurors very inadequate to the discharge of the important duties assigned to them ;

SEC. 2. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* Sheriffs, &c. to take an oath, &c.
That all sheriffs and coroners within this state already commissioned, shall, on or before the first Monday in March next, take the following oath or affirmation, (as the case may be,) before some judge or justice of the court of the county for which they may have been respectively commissioned, to wit : 'I, A. B. do swear or affirm, (as the case may be,) that in summoning jurors to be returned to any of the courts of this state, and that in executing every writ or precept which shall come to my hands for the return of jurors, I will use my utmost diligence to summon and return, as jurors, sober and judicious persons, of good reputation, and qualified by the laws of this state to serve as jurors, and to prevent any man being summoned or returned by me, or by any officer under me, who in my judgment will be influenced in determining any of the matters which shall come before him as a juror by hatred, malice or ill will, fear, favour or affection, or by any partiality whatever ; and that I will not summon or return as a juror any person, who, in my opinion or to my knowledge, may be solicitous to be returned upon the panel of jurors ;' and that they respectively return a certificate of such oath, or affirmation, to the clerk of the court of the county for which such person is commissioned as sheriff, or coroner, within twenty days thereafter, there to be recorded by said clerk, whose duty it is hereby declared to be to record the same amongst the proceedings of the preceding county court ; and that in case any sheriff or coroner shall neglect to take such oath, or affirmation, or return a certificate thereof as aforesaid, the person so neglecting shall forfeit and pay the sum of fifty dollars, to be recovered by indictment before the *district* court of the county for which such person is commissioned, and applied to the use of said county.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That no person shall be summoned as a juror by any sheriff or coroner of this state to two general or county courts successively. No person to be summoned, &c.