

each sheet measuring in length nineteen inches, and in breadth twelve inches, with a margin in blank of about half an inch at the sides, top and bottom of each page, and shall transmit the same, on or before the first day of June in each year, to the clerk of the Court of Appeals.

56. Every clerk who receives a deed, or instrument of writing which is required to be recorded within a specific time, shall endorse thereon the time when he receives the same.

57. If a free negro applies to the clerk of the court where the manumission is recorded, under which he claims his freedom, the clerk, on being satisfied that such negro is entitled to his freedom under such manumission, shall grant him a certificate thereof under the seal of his office, and shall set forth therein the height, age, complexion of such negro, when such negro became free, the place where he was raised, and such marks as may appear to such clerk to be notable in such negro.

58. If any negro, born free, shall apply to the clerk of the Circuit Court of the county where he resides, or if he resides in the city of Baltimore, to the Superior Court of Baltimore city, the clerk shall, upon sufficient evidence of such negro being born free, grant to such negro a certificate thereof, setting forth the manner in which such negro became entitled to his freedom, and shall describe such negro therein in the manner prescribed in the preceding section; and the clerk shall keep a registry of every certificate of freedom he may grant under this or the preceding section.

59. No clerk shall grant a certificate of freedom to any negro who has before obtained one, unless such negro shall make oath that he has lost the former certificate of his freedom; and the clerk shall describe the negro applying for the same in the second certificate, in the same manner he is directed herein to describe him in the first, and shall register the same in the same manner.

60. He shall apply before the first of May in each year, to the Comptroller for such number of blank licenses of every sort as may probably be required for the use of his county for one year, or the fractional part of the year, terminating on the thirtieth day of April then next ensuing.