

2. The clerk of the county commissioners shall, within five days after such appointment, make out and deliver to the sheriff of said county a certificate of the appointment of each of the said trustees, endorsing one of the said certificates for each of them, and the said sheriff shall, within six days thereafter, deliver one thereof to each of the said trustees.

3. The said trustees shall, under the penalty of twenty-five dollars each, accept said office, and shall meet at the alms-house in said county on the first Tuesday of May next ensuing such appointment, except prevented by sickness or other unavoidable accident, and in such case as soon thereafter as the disability shall be removed, and qualify as trustees, by taking the following oath: "I, A. B., do swear that I will duly and faithfully discharge the duties and trusts committed to me as a trustee of the poor for Somerset county, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, so help me God;" which oath is to be administered by any one of the said trustees to the others, any one of whom, being sworn, may administer the same to him.

4. No member of the General Assembly, clergyman, attorney, or practising physician, shall be obliged to accept or be liable to the penalty aforesaid for refusing to accept said office; and no justice of the peace or sheriff, or any one who hath not the qualification to be a member of the General Assembly, shall be eligible thereto; and no person shall be compellable to serve in less than three years after he has served or paid the penalty for refusing.

5. In all cases of vacancies happening by non-acceptance, death, removal out of the county, or disqualification of any of the trustees, the vacancy shall be filled by the county commissioners at their next meeting thereafter.

6. The trustees so elected and qualified are a body politic, with power to sue and be sued, by the name of "The Trustees of the Poor for Somerset county," and by that name may take and hold any gift, donation or present which may be given, devised or bequeathed by any person to them, for the support and maintenance of the poor in said county, and may purchase and hold any lands not exceeding the yearly value of fifteen hundred dollars.