

CHAP. 119.

Chancellor and judges to examine the dockets, &c.

6. AND BE IT ENACTED. That the chancellor and the judges of the said respective courts of justice, in the office belonging to which such judgments, decrees, papers and proceedings, shall remain unrecorded, or any one or more of them, at any time during the ensuing and other terms, shall examine the dockets and files thereof, and specify certain periods from term to term when the same, or such portions thereof as he or they shall prescribe, ought to be recorded, and shall direct an entry to be made of the respective portions and periods which they shall assign; and at the termination of every period the book or books shall be brought before him or them, and the said chancellor and judges respectively, or any one or more of them, shall determine whether the records are made up in the manner required by this act; and upon every failure to perform the duties hereby directed and provided, the attorney for the state, prosecuting in such court, shall put in suit the bond of such officer, who, or whose executors, administrators or securities, shall make default, unless the court shall see reasonable cause for granting more delay; and a sum of money not exceeding one thousand dollars, according to the nature of the offence, and the injury which may be probably sustained, shall be assessed by the jury, and collected and paid over, as the case may be, either to the justices of the levy court to defray the county charges, or to the treasurer of the respective shores for the use of this state.

Records to be made up and completed—to be inspected.

7. AND BE IT ENACTED, That from and after the end of this session of assembly, it shall be the duty of each and every officer, being the clerk or register of any court of justice within this state, to make up and complete his records in sufficient and well bound books, and in a fair and correct manner, of all and singular the judgments duly rendered in each and every action of ejectment, trespass *quare clausum fregit*, dower, partition, replevin wherein an avowry shall be pleaded or rent recovered, judgments in debt or damages under which any lands or tenements shall be seized in execution, and the several writs of execution by virtue of which the same shall be sold, and the several returns to such executions; and also all decrees, petitions, commissions, returns, deeds, papers and proceedings, whatsoever, relating to lands, tenements, and other real estate, which shall be had, rendered or made, in such court, or filed or delivered to be recorded, and now required according to the laws of the land to be recorded; and the records of all such judgments, decrees, papers and proceedings, shall be made up at full length, and in the manner herein before required, within the term of twelve months from and after the time when the said judgments, decrees and proceedings, shall be finally rendered, made or had, or when such deeds, papers and returns, shall be received or required to be recorded; and the chancellor and judges of the respective courts of justice, or any one or more of them, at every term, shall inspect the records and papers of the offices attached to their respective courts, and examine the condition thereof, and see whether the duties required by this act be duly performed; and if any clerk or register shall neglect or refuse to perform the duties hereby directed and provided, he shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars for every offence, to be recovered by indictment and conviction in a court of law; and such conviction shall be deemed and taken as evidence of misbehaviour in office, for which he may be removed.