

and in case of refusal or neglect to account or make payment, the said justices may cause the bond of the collector failing in his duty to be put in suit, and the said justices, on taking bond, shall cause the same to be proved by the witnesses thereto, and their clerk shall record the same, with the probate, and an attested copy of the said bond and probate from the said record shall be as good evidence in law to maintain an action of debt for the breach of the condition thereof, as if the said bond was actually produced and proved in court, and on suit the justices may order a copy of such bond to be filed in the general court, and thereupon *scire facias* shall issue against such collector and his securities, in the same manner as by law is directed in the case of bonds to the loan-office, and similar proceedings shall be had to compel payment of the money due, with an interest of ten *per cent.* from the day appointed for payment; and every person appointed collector shall, before he acts as such, subscribe a declaration of his belief in the christian religion, and take and subscribe the oath (or if a quaker, mennonist or dunker, the affirmation) of fidelity to this state, directed by the constitution and form of government, and the oath (or affirmation) prescribed by the act to punish certain crimes and misdemeanors, and to prevent the growth of torryism, unless he had before made the said declaration, and taken the said oaths or affirmations.

C H A P.
XXVI.

III. **Provided always, and be it enacted,** That it shall not be lawful for the said justices to impose any assessment or rate for the making and finishing necessary repairs to the court-house of their county, exceeding one hundred pounds real money in any one year; or for making and finishing necessary repairs to their county prison, exceeding one hundred and fifty pounds like money in any one year; or for the full and complete repair of any one bridge in their county, exceeding fifty pounds like money in any one year; or for the erecting and building of any one new bridge in their county, exceeding two hundred pounds like money.

Proviso.

IV. **And be it enacted,** That any person chargeable with any county assessment may pay and discharge the same in silver or gold, or paper money, at the same rate or value he is or may be enabled by law to pay or discharge his public assessment.

Persons may pay in silver, &c.

V. **And be it enacted,** That if any collector shall proceed to the sale of any goods or chattels, to enforce the payment of the county charge, he shall be entitled to receive the same fees as are or shall be established by law on the service of executions.

Collector's fees on executions, &c.

VI. **And,** to enable the justices of the county courts to settle and assess the expences of their counties for the year seventeen hundred and eighty, **Be it enacted,** That the justices of the several county courts, or any three or more of them, be authorized and required to meet at the place of holding the court for their county, on the twentieth day of March, seventeen hundred and eighty-one, to adjust the expences of their county for the preceding year in specie as aforesaid, and to impose an assessment on all the property in their county sufficient to defray such county charge, with an allowance of four *per cent.* for the collection thereof, agreeable to the valuation thereof made in pursuance of the act to raise the supplies for the year seventeen hundred and eighty-one, passed this present session, and the collector of the respective counties, after the twentieth day of April next, shall collect such rate in the same manner as the public assessment is by the said law to be collected, and shall render account and pay the same to the order of their respective county courts, on or before the twentieth day of May next, and in case of default, such collector shall pay the money then due, with an interest of ten *per cent.* and his bond and securities shall be answerable for payment, in the same manner as for the public tax.

Justices to adjust the expences of their county, &c.

VII. This act to continue six years, and to the end of the next session of assembly which shall happen after the expiration of the said six years.

Continuance.