

cer or person, do and shall not bring into and have in court the body or bodies of the person or persons mentioned, according to the tenor of the process or order, and the return thereof, the plaintiff or person obtaining such process or order, may move, that the sheriff, coroner, or other public officer or person, be amerced, and it shall and may be lawful for the chancellor, upon motion, to amerce such sheriff, coroner, or other public officer or person, nisi the court next following such motion for amerciamento, or the return of the process, or order any sum of money or tobacco, (having regard to the value of the matter, thing or sum, in question or demand) and fine for contempt and costs, to compel such sheriff, coroner, or other public officer or person, to comply with and fulfil the tenor of the process or order, and the return thereof as the chancellor may think proper; and that when the said amerciamento (which the chancellor may in his discretion, as he may see just cause, continue, or enlarge, or increase, from court to court), shall be no longer continued, enlarged or increased, and thereby become final, the chancellor may, upon motion, order the said sheriff, coroner, or other public officer or person, to pay the said amerciamento and costs to the plaintiff or other person at whose instance the said amerciamento is made, and fine for contempt, and upon a non-compliance with the said order for payment, may issue process of fieri facias against the lands, tenements and hereditaments, goods and chattels, of the said sheriff, coroner, or other public officer, which shall thereupon be taken and sold to satisfy such amerciamento and fine for contempt, or the chancellor may issue a capias ad satisfaciendum against such sheriff, coroner, or other public officer, for the said amerciamento and fine for contempt, and there shall be the same proceeding thereon as at common law, or the chancellor may, upon motion, order the said sheriff, coroner, other public officer or person, so amerced, and in court upon process of contempt, or otherwise, to stand committed and be kept in close custody until the said amerciamento and costs, and fine for contempt, be fully satisfied and paid; and in case the amerciamento aforesaid shall not be satisfied and paid by means aforesaid, within six months from the time it may be ordered to be paid to the plaintiff or other person at whose instance the said amerciamento is laid, then, and immediately thereafter, such plaintiff or other person at whose instance the said amerciamento is laid, or any person representing such person, may sue the securities of such sheriff, coroner, or other public officer, their heirs, executors or administrators, respectively, upon the office bond given by such sheriff, coroner, or other public officer, and such securities, and their heirs, executors or administrators, respectively, having assets, shall be liable upon such suits to pay and satisfy such amerciamento, or any part thereof which may remain unsatisfied by such sheriff, coroner, or other public officer. Provided always, that if the said sheriff, coroner, or other public officer or person, so amerced, shall at any time before the said amerciamento is made final as aforesaid, bring into and have in court the body of the person arrested or taken according to the return of the said first mentioned process or order, the said sheriff, coroner or other public officer, shall be released and discharged from the said amerciamento upon payment of the costs incurred, and the fine for contempt.

XXVI. **And be it enacted,** That if any sheriff, coroner or other public officer, to whose hands any writ, process or order, of the chancery court shall come or be delivered, shall refuse, neglect or delay, to make return thereof, according to the tenor and day of return of such writ, process or order, the same not being countermanded, such sheriff, coroner or other public officer, shall be in contempt, and process of contempt shall, upon motion, be awarded and issued against him, and before he shall be discharged from such contempt, he shall pay to the register, as herein before provided, as a fine for the said contempt, a sum not exceeding ten pounds

Penalty on  
sheriffs, &c.,  
for neglect to  
make return,  
&c.