

hath, directly or indirectly, sold, conveyed, leased, or otherwise disposed of, or intrusted or concealed, any part of his property of any kind, or any part of his debts, rights or claims, thereby wilfully to deceive or defraud his creditors, or any of them, or to secure the same, or to receive or expect any profit, benefit or advantage, thereby, the said court may thereupon examine such debtor on interrogatories, on oath, for the discovery of his property, or any concealment thereof, and respecting his conduct touching the same; or the said justices may, in their discretion, direct an issue to be tried in the said court, to determine the truth of any allegation made by such creditor; and if such debtor shall be found guilty of any wilful fraud or deceit of his creditors, he shall for ever be precluded from having any benefit of this act; and in case any such debtor shall, at any time within two years as aforesaid, upon any indictment, be convicted of wilfully, falsely and corruptly, swearing to any matter or thing in his oath aforesaid contained, he shall suffer as in case of wilful and corrupt perjury, and likewise be liable to his creditors, and be wholly deprived of any relief or benefit by this act.

C H A P.  
XIII.

## C H A P. XIV.

An ACT to provide for the appointment of commissioners for the regulation and improvement of Easton, in Talbot county, and to establish and regulate a market at the said town.

Passed Dec-  
ember 20.

**W**HEREAS it has been represented to this general assembly, that the town of Easton, in Talbot county, has considerably increased in houses and inhabitants, and that the improvement and advantage of the said town would be greatly promoted by placing the same under the care and regulation of certain commissioners, to be elected by the citizens thereof, with sufficient powers to forward this salutary end: Therefore,

Preamble

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That five judicious and discreet persons, residing in the said town, or within five miles thereof, shall be elected, by ballot, on the third Monday in March, in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-one, at the court-house in the said town, by the free male inhabitants thereof, above the age of one and twenty years, and having resided within the limits of the said town for the space of one year next preceding the election, and having property in possession of the value of thirty dollars; and the five persons who shall appear to have the greatest number of votes at the close of the election, shall be declared to be duly elected the commissioners of the said town, and shall have and exercise the several powers and authority delegated to them by this act; and every free male person, above the age of one and twenty years, and having a freehold estate, or leasehold property for a term exceeding one and twenty years, within the limits of the said town, shall likewise have a right to vote in the election of the said commissioners, notwithstanding such person may not be resident therein.

Five persons  
to be elected.  
&c.

III. *And be it enacted,* That the commissioners so chosen, shall assemble on the first Monday in April next ensuing their election, at the court-house in the said town, and arrange and number themselves into five classes by lot, and the office of the commissioner of the first class shall determine at the expiration of one year after his election, the office of the commissioner of the second class at the expiration of two years, the office of the commissioner of the third class at the expiration of three years, the office of the commissioner of the fourth class at the expiration of four years, and the office of the commissioner of the fifth class at the expiration of five years; and the vacancy thus successively occasioned by the determination of their respective offices, shall be supplied by an election of a judicious and discreet person, resident as aforesaid, to be made at the court-house in the said town, by the inhabitants and others, qualified to vote as aforesaid, on the third Monday of March in every year, and the person so elected, shall remain in office for the term of five years; and the succession of the said commissioners be so continued, as that one commissioner shall be chosen annually.

Commissioners  
to assemble,  
&c.

IV. *And be it enacted,* That any justice of the peace for the county aforesaid shall, in the first instance, be the judge of the said election, and shall return his certificate

Justice to be  
judge, &c.