

3. It shall be the duty of the said committee to proceed to carefully examine the accounts, vouchers, receipts and other papers connected with the receipts and disbursements of the public money of the County Treasurer of Queen Anne's County and of the County Commissioners of Queen Anne's County on the third Monday of June following their appointment, of the Board of County School Commissioners and the treasurer thereof on the third Monday of August following their appointment and of the Trustees of the Poor of Queen Anne's County on the third Monday of July following their appointment; in such a manner as to show the true financial status and condition of each of the said boards and officers of the said county; and whenever it shall be deemed necessary, in the judgment of the said committee, or be required by any five or more respectable taxpayers of Queen Anne's county, they shall summon such persons as may be by them deemed necessary, or be named to them, requiring them to produce any paper, voucher or book in their possession relating to the receipt or disbursement of the public money of Queen Anne's county, and shall have the power and authority to administer oaths and affirmations to the persons so summoned before them, and shall require them to answer under oath all such questions as shall be propounded to them by any member of the said committee touching the accounts, vouchers, books and papers of any of the said boards or officers; and in case any person, after being summoned to appear before said committee, shall refuse or neglect to attend in accordance with the requirements of said summons, or shall refuse or neglect to produce any voucher, books or paper required by said summons to be produced, or shall refuse to be sworn or affirmed, or being sworn or affirmed, shall refuse to be answer, the person so refusing to appear, or neglecting to produce any vouchers, books or papers, or refusing to be sworn or affirmed, or refusing to answer, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof before any Court of competent jurisdiction, shall, in case of a private citizen, be fined not exceeding one hundred dollars for each and every refusal to appear, or to produce any vouchers, books or papers or to answer or be sworn or affirmed, and shall stand committed until the fines and costs are paid, and in the case of any of the members of any of the said boards and officers, be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars or be confined in the county jail for a period of not more than six months, or be both fined and imprisoned, at the discretion of the Court, and if fined only, shall stand committed until the fines and costs are paid; the