

CORONERS, INQUESTS AND DEAD BODIES.

294. The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint and commission seven competent physicians to act as coroners for the City of Baltimore, to hold office during the period of two years, at an annual salary of one thousand dollars each, payable quarterly by the City Register; and the said Coroners shall be assigned to duty by the Governor, and to each of the police districts of the City of Baltimore; and it is further provided, that whenever the police districts of the City of Baltimore shall be increased in number by the order of the Board of Police Commissioners of Baltimore City, the Governor shall appoint an additional coroner for each of the police districts so created; *provided*, that before entering upon the duties of their office, the persons appointed shall take the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution of the State of Maryland, for office-holders; and further, they shall give bond to the said State of Maryland, with security to be approved by the judge of the Superior Court of Baltimore City, in the penalty of two thousand dollars each, conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties, as now prescribed by law, or which shall hereafter be prescribed.

295. Each of the seven Coroners shall be assigned to such sub-division or district of the City of Baltimore as the Governor may direct; and in case of absence or illness of any Coroner, he shall deputize some competent person to attend to the duties of his office during his absence or illness.

296. The Coroner shall hold an inquest over every person found dead in his district in said City when the manner and cause of death shall not be already known as accidental, or in the course of nature. No Coroner's jury in said City shall receive any fee or compensation for services as such; and said Coroners are authorized and empowered to issue their certificates to the City Register for the payment of such expenses as may be necessary for the interment of any person over whom they, or either of them, has held an inquest, and whose body is not claimed by friends or relatives; *provided*, the amount of such expenses shall not in any case exceed the sum of seven dollars.