

commission, deliver the same to the sheriff of their county, to be by him forwarded as public letters, and under the like penalty, and shall also deliver to the clerk of his county court a duplicate thereof, to be lodged among the records of the said county, in eight days thereafter; and the clerk of the house of delegates shall enter the said summary account in a book to be provided for the purpose, and keep the original in his office, and, on the second day of the next meeting of the general assembly, he shall lay the same before the house of delegates, for the inspection of the members.

XXIX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any suit shall be brought against any person for any thing done in pursuance of this act, the suit shall be commenced within six months after the fact committed, and the defendant in any suit may plead the general issue, and give this act and the special matter in evidence, and that the same was done in pursuance and by authority of this act; and if it shall appear so to be done, or if any suit shall be brought after the time limited, then the jury shall find for the defendant; and if the plaintiff shall become nonsuit, or suffer a discontinuance, or if a verdict shall pass, or, upon demurrer, judgment shall be given against him, the defendant shall recover treble costs of suit as in other cases at law.

Suits, when to be brought, &c.

XXX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That from and after the passage of this act, every person who shall or may remove to any county within this state from the county in which his property hath or may have been assessed, or from any other place without this state, and whose personal property hath not or may not have been assessed in the county to which he hath or may remove, every such person shall, and he is hereby directed, when required by the collector of the county, or his deputy, in which his personal property, or the property under his care and management, doth or may lie, to give to such collector, or his deputy, a full and particular account of his personal property in the said county, and of all personal property in his possession, or under his care and management, liable to be assessed, and which, before the time of such request, shall not have been assessed in the said county, and the name of the person to whom the same belongs; and if any person shall refuse, or after reasonable or convenient notice shall neglect, to render such account, he shall be subject to the same penalties imposed on persons refusing or neglecting to deliver an account to any assessor under this act.

Persons to give an account, &c.

XXXI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said collector, or his deputy, shall, on his own knowledge, or the best information he can obtain, value the said property; that is to say, negroes and plate, if any, according to the direction of this act, and all other property to such sum as he believes in his conscience the same may be worth in ready money, and shall certify the same to the commission of the tax.

Collector to value property, &c.

XXXII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That every collector, or his deputy, shall inform himself, by all lawful ways and means, of all personal property as aforesaid in his county, (except the property by this act excepted,) and shall immediately on such information proceed to value such property, agreeably to the directions of this act, and shall return, at the time and at the place to be appointed by the commissioners of the tax of the county of which he is collector, a certificate, in writing, of the particulars of all the said personal property in his county, and of his valuation of the same, in which shall be expressed the number of slaves of each description agreeably to this act, and the weight of plate, and shall return, with his certificate, an alphabetical list of all such persons whose property he shall value.

Inform himself of all personal property, &c.

XXXIII. PROVIDED ALWAYS, AND BE IT ENACTED, That every collector, or deputy-collector, before he proceeds on the duties by this act imposed, shall take the following oath, or affirmation, as the case may be, to wit: "I, A. B. do swear, or affirm, that I will well and truly execute the duties imposed on me by an act, entitled, An act for the valuation of real and personal property within this state, and will justly and impartially value all personal property which I shall be authorized to value, agreeably to the directions of the act for the valuation of real and personal property within this state, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, and therein I will spare no person for favour or affection, or any person grieve for hatred, malice or ill will;" which oath, or affirmation, any of the justices of the peace, or commissioners of the tax, may administer.

And take an oath, &c.

XXXIV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That there shall be allowed to each collector, for the performance of the duties by this act imposed on him, such a sum as the commissioners of the tax, in their discretion, shall think reasonable and proper, according to the duty which he shall actually perform, which sums shall be respectively laid by the justices of the levy courts of the several counties of this state, and levied and collected by the sheriff or collector, in the same manner, and at the same

Allowance to collector, &c.