

An act to abolish Magistrates Courts in Dorchester County, and to extend the jurisdiction of a single Justice of the Peace in said County.

Passed Feb 23, 1842.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That from and after the first day of April, eighteen hundred and forty-two, the act entitled, an act to establish magistrates courts in the several counties in this State, and to prescribe their jurisdiction, passed December session, eighteen hundred and thirty-five, chapter two hundred and one, and the several supplements thereto, so far as the same relates to Dorchester county, be and the same is hereby repealed.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That in all cases where suit has been instituted in said courts for the recovery of a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, if no judgement shall have been thereon rendered on or before the said first day of April, it shall be the duty of the respective chief judges of the said courts to deliver to some justice of the peace in the district, all papers and proceedings relative thereto; and in case any writ of capias ad respondendum, scieri facias, capias ad satisfaciendum, fieri facias or venditioni exponas, issued by either of the said courts, for the recovery of a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, shall be in the hands of any sheriff, coroner, or constable of the said county, after the said first day of April, it shall be the duty of the said sheriff, coroner or constable, as the case may be, to return the same to some justice of the peace of the district, who shall take such proceedings therein as if the same had been originally issued by a single justice of the peace.

If no judgement has been rendered, papers to be returned to a justice of the peace

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That a single justice of the peace shall have jurisdiction in all cases of accounts, note or bond, when the amount does not exceed the sum of one hundred dollars in all cases of assault and battery, where the damages laid or claimed do not exceed the sum of fifty dollars, and that in all cases where a warrant is demanded of a justice of the peace in civil cases of assault and battery, he shall require the party demanding the warrant, to state the amount of damage claimed, and insert the amount in his warrant.

Jurisdiction of single justice of the peace defined

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted,* That it is hereby made the duty of the chief justices of the magistrates courts in and for Dorchester county, to deliver to the clerk of the said

Dockets to be delivered to clerk of county court