

be duly elected the Commissioners of the said town, and shall have and exercise the several powers and authorities delegated to them by this act; and every free white 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.

1812.

2. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the commissioners so chosen shall assemble on the first Monday in April next ensuing their election, at such place as a majority of them shall fix upon 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 and qualified as aforesaid, to be made at such place as the commissioners shall appoint in the said town, by the inhabitants and others qualified to vote as aforesaid, on the second 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 shall meet and arrange themselves into classes by lot. Their respective terms of servitude.—Vacancies shall be filled up by annual elections.

3. AND BE IT ENACTED, That any justice of the peace for the counties of Somerset or Worcester shall, in the first instance, be the judge of the said election, and shall return his certificates thereof, to the said commissioners, on the day first appointed for their meeting; and the same shall be filed and recorded among their proceedings; and at every subsequent election, the commissioners of the said town, or the major part of them, shall be judges of such election, and the proceedings thereof shall be recorded under their direction; and every commissioner, before he shall proceed to open an election, shall take an oath or affirmation, that he will faithfully and impartially

Judges of elections—they shall take an oath.