

CHAPTER 193.

Dec Ses. 1816.

Passed Feb. 3.

An act to provide for the Administration of Justice in Cases of Crimes and Misdemeanors in the City and Precincts of Baltimore.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That from and after the first day of March next, the trial and cognizance of all felonies, and other crimes, offences and misdemeanors, and other matters arising within the city and precincts of Baltimore, which are at this time cognizable by the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery for Baltimore County, shall be inquired into, heard, tried and determined, within the said city and precincts, as follows; that is to say, the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the council, shall issue a commission to three persons of integrity, experience, and sound legal knowledge, residing within the city or precincts of Baltimore, one of whom shall be styled in the said commission Chief Judge of Baltimore City Court, and the other two shall be styled in the said commission, Associate Judges of the said court; and the said Chief Judge and Associate Judges shall hold their commissions during good behaviour, removable according to the constitution of this state, and not otherwise; and from and after the issuing said commission, all the powers, jurisdiction and authority, vested in, and now held and exercised by, the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery for Baltimore County, or the justices thereof, within the said city and precincts, shall be and are hereby vested in, and may be rightfully exercised by, Baltimore City Court, or the judges thereof.

Judges to be appointed for the city court, which is to be vested with all the powers of court of oyer and terminer.

2. *And be it enacted,* That on the commencement of this act all causes, pleas, process and proceedings, depending in the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery for Baltimore County, shall be heard, tried and determined, before the justices appointed and commissioned in virtue of this act; and that all process which hath been issued or shall issue from the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery for Baltimore County, returnable to the next term of the said court, and all recognizances which have been, or shall be taken, returnable to the next term of the said court, shall be returned to the first term of the court to be holden under this law.

To decide all claims now pending in court of oyer and terminer.

3. *And be it enacted,* That the judges of Baltimore City Court, shall appoint a fit and proper person, as clerk to the said court, who shall receive into his custody all the records, books and proceedings, now remaining in the office of the clerk of the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery for Baltimore County, and who shall be entitled to receive the same fees as are now allowed by law to the clerk of the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery for Baltimore county.

To appoint a clerk.

4. *And be it enacted,* That the clerk of the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery for Baltimore County, shall be clerk of the said Baltimore City Court, until the appointment of a clerk, as herein before directed, shall have been made by the judges of the said last mentioned court.

Present clerk to be in office until a new appointment.

5. *And be it enacted,* That all that part of Baltimore county, which lies within the following lines, shall be deemed, taken

Limits of city and precincts.