

C H A P.
LXXXVIII.

clerk's and register of wills offices in Queen-Anne's county, that the said records and papers are in a ruinous situation, and that many original papers in the said offices have not been recorded, and are now in danger of being destroyed or lost;

Chief justice
to inspect the
records, &c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That it shall and may be lawful for the chief justice of the district in which Queen-Anne's county is situate, and he is hereby authorised and requested, to inspect the records and papers deposited and filed in the clerk's office of said county, and to cause to be transcribed and recorded, by the clerk of the said county, in good leather bound books, to which fair and regular alphabets shall be prefixed, all such records and papers belonging to the said office as in his judgment require to be transcribed or recorded.

Papers to be
recorded, &c.

III. *And be it enacted,* That it shall and may be lawful for the justices of the orphans court of Queen-Anne's county, and they are hereby empowered and required, to cause to be recorded, by the register of wills of said county, in good leather bound books, to which fair and regular alphabets shall be prefixed, all such papers filed in the office of the register of wills of said county, and which have not been recorded, as they, or a majority of them, in their judgment, may deem necessary and proper to be recorded.

Fees allowed.

IV. *And be it enacted,* That the said clerk and register shall respectively be entitled to the same fees for transcribing any record, or recording any original paper, in pursuance of the direction of the said chief justice, or the said justices of the orphans court, or a majority of them, as are now allowed by law for the performance of like services.

Clerk, &c. to
make out a
fair account,
&c.

V. *And be it enacted,* That the said clerk and register shall, between the first and fifteenth days of April in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-nine, and between the same days annually until the whole recording be completed, severally make out a fair and accurate account of the services by them respectively performed in pursuance of this act, and the account of the said clerk, when examined and passed by the said chief justice, and the account of the said register, when examined and passed by the justices of the said orphans court, or a majority of them, shall be by them certified, under their respective hands and seals, and transmitted to the justices of the levy court of Queen-Anne's county, who shall, at their next meeting for the purpose of laying the county levy after receiving such accounts, assess and levy upon the assessable property in said county a sum of money, exclusive of the commission now allowed by law for collecting the same, sufficient to discharge the said accounts, and cause the same, when collected, to be paid to the said clerk and register respectively.

Provido.

VI. *Provided nevertheless, and be it enacted,* That no compensation shall be made by the said county to the said clerk or register of wills for recording any papers that shall have been deposited and filed in either of the said offices since the appointment of the said clerk or register to their said respective offices; and provided also, that no judgments shall be recorded in virtue of this act.

Justices to
make allow-
ance, &c.

VII. *And be it enacted,* That it shall and may be lawful for the justices of the levy court of Queen-Anne's county, and they are hereby authorised and required, to make such allowance to the said chief justice as they may think an adequate compensation for the services by him rendered in pursuance of this act, and to cause the same to be assessed and levied upon the assessable property in the said county.

Duration.

VIII. *And be it enacted,* That this act shall continue in force until the fifteenth day of April, in the year eighteen hundred and one, and no longer.