

happens in the selling of staves and shingles; as well concerning the quantity as quality; and it being apprehended that if a person or persons were appointed, under proper powers, checks and restrictions, and the buyers and sellers, inhabitants in and about the said town, were obliged to employ him or them to cord all wood, garble or cull, and count, all staves and shingles, to be brought in and about the said town, and to inspect or determine, and by gradated brand-marks distinguish the qualities of all flour, by the said inhabitants or others respectively to be brought in and about the said town and Fell's-point, and to measure by proper measures, settled and adjusted by the county standard, all salt, grain and flax-seed, that should be brought by land or water to, and sold in the said town, would be of great service, not only in supporting and assisting the commerce of the said town of Baltimore, but also in thwarting and discountenancing dishonourable, unmanly and deceitful dispositions, always injurious to a community. For the encouragement therefore of the said town, and others well disposed to forward the trade and advancement thereof,

II. *Be it enacted, by the right honourable the lord proprietary, by and with the advice and consent of his lordship's governor, and the upper and lower houses of assembly, and the authority of the same,* That the commissioners of Baltimore-town, or the major part of them, for the time being, shall assemble and meet, between the first and last day of November next, and between the said first and last day of November yearly, and every year, during the continuance of this act, and then nominate and appoint a person of good repute and skill in the goodness and quality of flour; to be inspector of flour within the said town, and at Fell's-point, for the year ensuing; or for any other shorter space of time in their discretion; and also shall nominate and appoint any number of persons, not exceeding three, of good repute and skill in culling and garbling of staves and shingles, to be cullers, garblers and counters, of all staves and shingles, brought to and sold within the said town and at Fell's-point for the year next ensuing; and also shall nominate and appoint any number of persons not exceeding three, of good repute and skill in measuring grain, salt and flax-seed, to be measurers of all grain, salt and flax-seed, brought by land or water to, and sold in the said town, and at Fell's-point, for the year next ensuing; and also shall nominate and appoint any number of persons, not exceeding five, of good repute and skill, to be weighers of all hay, and wood corders of all fire-wood, brought to and sold within the said town for the year next ensuing.

Commissioners to appoint an inspector of flour, &c.

III. *And be it further enacted,* That every commissioner of the said town, who shall vote for any of the said officers, shall take the following oath, before he shall be entitled to vote for the nomination and appointment of all or any of the officers aforementioned, to wit: "I, A. B. do swear, that I will faithfully, honestly and impartially, nominate and appoint such person or persons to be inspector of flour within the said town of Baltimore, and at Fell's-point, and also such measurers of grain, salt and flax-seed, cullers or garblers, and counters, of staves, heading and shingles, weighers of hay, and wood corders within the town of Baltimore, and Fell's-point, as I think in my judgment and conscience, is or are fit and capable to execute the said offices respectively."

The oath.

IV. *And be it further enacted,* That in case of the death of any or either of the said officers so nominated and appointed, or the refusal or inability of them, or either of them, to act, the said commissioners, or the major part of them, shall, as soon as conveniently may be thereafter, meet together and nominate and appoint one other such person as aforesaid, in the stead and place of any person so dying, refusing or becoming incapable to act, for the residue of the year then to come; and if the said commissioners shall neglect and omit to nominate and appoint all or any of the said respective officers, then, and in such case, the governor or commander in chief of this province, for the time being, may, by warrant under his hand, constitute and appoint all or any of the said officers, who shall be qualified agreeable to the directions of this act, and have the like power and authority as if they, or either of them, had been by the said commissioners regularly nominated and appointed.

How vacancies are to be filled.

V. And