

state, as also the oath of judge or justice, (*See above*, Art. 15.) and sign a declaration of his belief in the christian religion.—*Feb.* 1777, c. 8, § 3.

20, 21. The register of wills in each county, before he acts as such, shall take the oath of allegiance and fidelity to this state, before one of the justices of the peace for the said county, and also an oath of office in the following words: "I, A. B. make oath, on the holy evangelists of almighty God, that I will diligently and faithfully execute the office of register of wills within the county of — according to the best of my skill and judgment. So help me God;" and shall sign a declaration of his belief in the christian religion.—*Feb.* 1777, c. 8, § 6.

22. All persons who are or shall be appointed to any of the offices mentioned in the act, entitled, "An act for the regulation of officers fees," shall, under the penalty of 150l. current money, before they enter on the execution of the said office, take the following oath before some judge or justice of the peace, or alderman of the city of Annapolis: "You, A. B. do swear, that you will well, faithfully and impartially, to the best of your skill and knowledge, execute your office, and that you will not, for lucre or malice, delay any person or persons applying to you for any business, in your office; and that you will not willingly or wittingly charge, ask, take, exact, demand or receive, any other or larger fees for doing your duty in your office, than are mentioned, rated, regulated and established by the act, entitled, An act for the regulation of officers fees."—*Nov.* 1779, c. 25, § 8.

23. All deputies and under clerks writing in any of the offices aforesaid, (*see last art.*) or doing service in them, shall, before they enter into any of the services, or execute or perform any duty in any of the said offices, before some judge or justice of the general or county court, or alderman of the city of Annapolis, (who is required to administer the same, under the penalty of 50l. for every refusal) take the following oath, under the penalty of 100l. for every refusal or neglect, viz.— "You, A. B. do swear, that you will not, for lucre or malice, delay any person or persons applying to you for any business belonging to the office you officiate in; and that you will not, directly or indirectly, ask, take, exact, demand, or receive from, or charge to, any such person or persons, to your own use, any fee or reward whatsoever, for any services you shall do as deputy clerk of the said office; and also, that in making out of the officers fees, you will not wittingly or willingly charge other or higher fees than limited by the act, entitled, An act for the regulation of officers fees," which said oaths shall be returned by the judge, justice, or alderman, before whom taken, to the general court or county offices, as the case may be, within 20 days after the taking thereof, under the penalty of 20l. and shall be recorded by the clerk of such court under the penalty of 20l. for every neglect.—*ibid.* § 9.

24. Each