

habitants of the said town, shall be and hereby are appointed aldermen of the said town so long as they shall well behave themselves therein. C H A P. XXIII.

II. AND BE IT ENACTED, That all free men above twenty-one years of age, and having visible property within the state above the value of thirty pounds current money, and having resided in the said town one whole year next before the first day of January next, shall have a right to assemble at such place in the said town as the said mayor, recorder and aldermen, or any three or more of them, shall appoint, and when assembled they shall proceed to elect, *viva voce*, ten persons, residents of the said town one whole year next before the said first day of January next; above twenty-one years of age, and having visible property within the state above the value of one hundred pounds current money, to be common council of the said town for so long time as they shall well behave themselves, (a) and the said mayor, recorder and aldermen, or any three or more of them, shall be judges of the said election, and the ten persons who shall have the greatest number of legal votes upon the final casting up of the polls, shall be declared duly elected.

Ten common council-men to be elected, &c.

(a) By 1797, ch. 56, so much of this section as continues the powers of the common council during good behaviour is repealed, and they are thereafter to be elected to serve for two years. The elections to be on the first Monday in February.

III. AND, to perpetuate the succession of the said mayor, recorder, aldermen and common council, in all time to come, BE IT ENACTED, That the said mayor, recorder, aldermen and common council, shall assemble at some convenient place in the said town upon the first Monday of January, seventeen hundred and ninety-one, and on the same day for ever thereafter, and shall elect, by the majority of votes of such of them as shall be then present, one other of the aldermen of the said town for the time being, to be mayor of the said town for the ensuing year; and upon the death or removal of the said mayor, or of the recorder or any aldermen, of the said town, and within one year after any such event, such of the said persons as shall be alive, or the major part of them, shall assemble at some convenient place in the said town, and elect, by a majority of votes, some other person or persons to be mayor, recorder, alderman or aldermen, of the said town, in the place of such person or persons so deceased or removed respectively, as the case shall require, so as the said mayor, so to be elected, be at the time of such election actually one of the aldermen of the said town, (b) and so as the said recorder, so to be elected, be a person learned in the law, and so as the said alderman and aldermen, so to be elected, be actually, at the time of such election, of the common council of the said town; and in case of the election of any of the common council to be an alderman, the vacancy shall be filled up by an election, at such time, (not less than five days thereafter,) as the said mayor, recorder and aldermen, or any three or more of them, shall appoint, by the residents of the said town qualified as herein before directed and required in the first election of the common council then for the said town.

Mayor to be elected every year, &c.

(b) By 1797, ch. 56, section 5, this restriction is taken off, and any citizen of George-town may be chosen mayor.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the mayor, recorder and aldermen, hereby appointed, or hereafter to be elected, shall be justices of the peace within the said town and the precincts thereof, having first taken the oath appointed by law to be taken by justices of the peace.

Mayor, &c. to be justices of the peace, &c.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said mayor, recorder and aldermen, hereby appointed, or hereafter to be elected, or any three or more of them, shall have within the said town or the precincts thereof, full power to elect a sheriff, and to appoint constables and other necessary officers, for the said town.

To elect a sheriff, &c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said mayor, recorder, aldermen and common council, of the said town, for the time being, shall have full power and authority to make such by-laws for the regulation and good government of the said town and precincts, and the inhabitants thereof, and to restrain all disorders and disturbances, and to prevent all nuisances, inconveniencies and annoyances, within the said town and its precincts, and other matters, exigencies and things, within the said town and precincts, as to them, or a major part of them, shall seem meet and consonant to reason, and not contrary to the constitution and laws of this state; and the said by-laws shall be observed, kept and performed, by all the inhabitants of the said town and its precincts, and all persons trading therein, under such reasonable penalties, fines and forfeitures, as shall be imposed by the said by-laws, not exceeding seven pounds ten shillings current money, or twenty dollars; the said penalties, fines or forfeitures, to be levied by distress and sale of the goods, or execution of the person so offending, and applied to the use of the said town.

Make by-laws, &c.

VII. AND, to defray the expences of the said corporation, BE IT ENACTED, That it shall be lawful for the said mayor, recorder, aldermen and common council, of the said town, by by-laws made for

And lay a tax, &c. for