

commission of six per cent. to the collector for the collection thereof; and the said justices shall assess and levy the first of the said taxes, together with the sum necessary for the payment of the said interest and commission, at their levy court to be holden in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-six, and the rest of the said taxes, together with the interest and commission aforesaid, in the four succeeding years, by equal portions, and shall proceed in the assessment thereof in the same manner as in assessing and levying other public charges of the county.

C H A P.
LXVII.

V. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the sum of two hundred pounds current money shall be assessed and levied by the said justices at their next levy court to be holden in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-five, together with the collector's commission of six per cent. thereon, and the same shall be assessed and levied in the same manner, and upon the same property, as other public charges of the county are assessed and levied; and the said sum shall be assessed and levied for the use of the said commissioners, and be applied by them, in aid of the before-mentioned loan, to the building of the said gaol.

Money to be
levied, &c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the sheriff, or other person appointed to collect the said respective taxes, shall pay the same to the said commissioners, or the order of the major part of them, at or before the time limited by law for the payment of the county charges in the said respective years, and in default thereof the said sheriff or collector shall be answerable for all interest, damages and costs, which may be payable by, or may arise or accrue to, the said commissioners, in consequence of the said default.

To be paid to
the commission-
ers, &c.

VII. AND, whereas the escape of prisoners, and too often their inhuman treatment, are occasioned by a want of vigilance and care in the keepers of the gaols, who are usually persons employed by the sheriffs, not sufficiently near to those situations to afford assistance, or to protect the injured, and who, not being immediately amenable for a default of conduct, are not so watchful, or so circumspect in their conduct, as justice and humanity require, and it is apprehended that the residence of the keeper in the gaol will better secure the purposes intended by the confinement of persons; thereof, BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners, in planning and directing the building of the said gaol, shall lay off two apartments, and a cellar, and reserve and appropriate the same to the residence of the keeper of the said gaol, and throughout the whole plan the said commissioners shall have respect to the comfortable accommodation, as well as to the security, of the prisoners; and if the funds established by this act shall enable them to do so, they shall lay off a convenient and sufficient yard, and cause the same to be enclosed by a substantial wall; and the said commissioners, as soon as the said building shall be completed, shall return a fair and faithful account of their proceedings and expenditures to the justices of Talbot county court, to be examined and inspected by them, and on their approbation thereof, the same shall be deposited and filed among the original papers belonging to their office.

Apartments to
be laid off, &c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That after the completion of the said gaol, the sheriff of Talbot county shall, within one month thereafter, nominate and appoint a discreet and judicious person to be gaoler, or keeper of the said gaol, who, on his acceptance of the said office, shall qualify himself to hold the same, by taking an oath, or affirmation, before some two justices of the peace for Talbot county, that he will well and faithfully keep all prisoners who shall be committed to the gaol of Talbot county, and that he will in all respects truly and honestly demean himself in his office of keeper of the said gaol, without prejudice, affection, malice, hatred or partiality, so long as he shall continue in the said office; and also by entering into a recognizance before the said justices, with two sufficient sureties, in the sum of three hundred pounds current money, in the usual form, with the condition thereto, "That if the said A. B. do and shall well and faithfully execute and perform the office of keeper of the gaol of Talbot county, and find and provide wholesome and sufficient victuals for all and singular the prisoners who shall be committed to the said gaol, and keep the several apartments in the said gaol clean and free from all manner of filth, and not suffer or permit loose, idle, or disorderly persons, to frequent the said gaol, or remain about the same, and do and shall in all respects faithfully demean himself in the said office without favour, partiality or prejudice, then the said recognizance to be void and of no effect, otherwise to remain in force;" and the person so appointed and qualified shall remain in office during good behaviour, removeable by the sheriff of Talbot county, or by a presentment of Talbot county court, and judgment of the said court thereon, after hearing and determining upon the charges alleged against him, and the evidence concerning the same; and whenever a vacancy shall happen in the said office, it shall be lawful for the said sheriff to proceed forthwith to the appointment and qualification of another gaoler, in the manner herein before directed.

Sheriff to ap-
point a gaoler,
&c.

IX. AND