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IX.

chuse one or more sober and discreet person or persons of each respective parish, to supply such vacancies, and such person or persons, so elected and chosen, shall take and subscribe the oath to the government required by the act of general assembly, entitled, An act for the better security of the government, and also take the following oath, viz. "I, B. do solemnly swear and declare, that I will justly and truly execute the office or trust of vestryman of _____ parish, according to my best skill and knowledge, without prejudice, favour, or affection;" which said oaths, at the election of a new vestry, are to be administered by any justice of the peace of the county, city, or place, where such vestry is, who is hereby required and empowered to administer the same, and upon elections afterwards, either by a justice of peace as aforesaid, or the first vestryman, who is hereby likewise required and empowered to administer the same, and each person so elected, chosen, and qualified, shall be, and not before, deemed and taken as one of the vestry, to all intents and purposes.

When the first election is to be held.

III. And be it enacted, That the first election for vestrymen shall be on the first Monday in June next, in each parish, by the persons entitled to vote as aforesaid, who shall repair to their respective parish-churches for that purpose.

Two vestrymen to be annually chosen, &c.

IV. And be it further enacted, That two vestrymen shall be annually chosen thereafter, in the room of two of the vestrymen, who shall be left out by ballot, unless rechosen with their own consent and agreement, to which purpose all the inhabitants of every parish, being entitled to vote as aforesaid, and contributing to the charges thereof, or such of them as shall attend, shall repair to their respective parish-churches every Easter Monday, and there, by their free choice, make the election aforesaid; which vestrymen, thus elected, shall take the oaths and qualify themselves in manner and form aforesaid.

V. And, For keeping a fair register of all such vestries proceedings, and for registering of all births, marriages, and burials, in each respective parish:

Each vestry to provide a register, &c.

VI. Be it enacted, That each vestry shall and is hereby obliged to provide a fit person for a register, who shall at all times keep a true and fair registry of the several proceedings of such vestry, from time to time, in executing their trust and authority, and making just and true entries thereof; which person, so to be appointed for keeping such registry, shall take and subscribe the oath to the government required by law as aforesaid, and take an oath of office, to be administered by any one of the vestrymen aforesaid, which oath any such vestryman is hereby empowered to administer accordingly, for the due and faithful executing his said office, before he shall be admitted into the said office, and shall make due entry of all vestry proceedings, and of all births, marriages, and burials, (negroes and mulattoes excepted) that is to say, the christian and surname, with the day, month, and year, of every such birth, marriage, or burial, where the same shall be made known to such register and desired to be recorded, under the penalty of three pounds currency, to be forfeited by such register refusing or neglecting to enter it, having received his fee for the same: And such register shall have the custody of all former parish registers, and is hereby obliged