

C H A P.
XVII.

evidence of attachment to the government of this state, or affection to the independence of America.

Chancellor to
examine per-
sons, &c.

III. **And be it enacted,** That the chancellor, before he admits any person as a solicitor of the court of chancery, and the respective judges and justices of the courts of common law, admiralty, and orphans courts, before they admit any person as an attorney of their respective courts, are hereby authorized and required to examine, by such ways and means as to them respectively shall seem proper, whether such person is suitable and fit, with respect to his knowledge, abilities, and integrity, and whether, on consideration of all circumstances, and the whole conduct and behaviour of such person, he is well affected to the present government of this state, and the principles of liberty and independence, as established by the late revolution; and if the chancellor, or such judges or justices respectively, shall be thereby satisfied that such person is duly qualified to be admitted to act as a solicitor of the court of chancery, or as an attorney of the respective courts of common law, admiralty, and orphans courts, then, and not otherwise, the chancellor, or such judges or justices, as the case may be, are authorized to administer to such person the oaths directed by law to be taken by an attorney or solicitor, and to cause him to be admitted an attorney or solicitor of such court respectively.

Persons to
reside two
years before
admittance,
&c.

IV. **And be it enacted,** That no person shall hereafter be permitted to practise the law in this state, or admitted as an attorney or solicitor in any court of law or equity, or in the court of admiralty or orphans court, unless he has been an inhabitant and subject of this or some one of the United States, for two whole years next preceding his application to be admitted, nor unless, if he hath been an inhabitant and subject of some other of the United States, he shall have been regularly admitted an attorney or solicitor of some court of record in the state of which he was a subject, and shall produce from the judges or justices of the said court a certificate of his having been so admitted, and also a certificate from the judges of the said court, or of the supreme court, or from the governor of such state, of his attachment to the principles of the late revolution.

No subject to
be hereafter
admitted be-
fore study,
&c.

V. **And be it enacted,** That hereafter, no subject of this state, who is not already admitted as an attorney or solicitor of some one of the courts in this state, shall be admitted to act as an attorney, or to sue out any writ or process, or to commence, carry on, or defend, any action or suit, or any proceedings, either before or after judgment obtained, in the name or names of any other person or persons, in any court of law or equity, or in the court of admiralty, or any orphans court in this state, unless such person shall have served as a clerk to, or studied under, some attorney or solicitor of this or some one of the United States, duly and legally sworn and admitted, and that such person shall, for and during the term of three years, have continued in such service, and also unless such person, after the expiration of the said term of three years, shall be examined, sworn, admitted, and enrolled, in the same manner as above directed with respect to persons hereafter to be admitted.

VI. **And**