

adjust the scales, weights and measures, used at the said market, by the standards of the county; and if any weights or measures shall be false or untrue, to seize the same, and on a just alteration thereof, to dispose of the same at public sale to the highest bidder, and to account for the money arising from those sales with the said commissioners.

C H A P.
XIV.

XIX. And be it enacted, That the said market-house, and the stalls, shambles, issues, and appertinances thereof, shall be, and the same are hereby, vested in the said commissioners, and their successors, for the use and in trust for the benefit and advantage of the inhabitants of the said town; and the clerk of the said market shall have full power, under the direction of the said commissioners, to rent and hire out the stalls and shambles of the said market-house upon the best terms, and to keep a fair and just account, as well of the persons renting, as of the profits arising from such rents, and to render duplicates of such accounts to the said commissioners annually on the first Monday of April, or oftener if he shall be required; and the said rents and profits shall be paid to the order of the said commissioners, and be applied to the uses directed by this act; and in default of payment, the same shall be recovered, in the name of the said commissioners, of any tenant or person refusing or delaying to pay the same, by the warrant of a justice of the peace, as in the case of recovering small debts before a magistrate; and the clerk of the said market shall be allowed a reasonable compensation for his services, not exceeding the sum of fifteen pounds current money by the year, to be ascertained by the said commissioners, and to be proportionably assessed and levied upon the inhabitants and owners of property in the said town, according to the respective valuations herein before directed to be made.

Market-house, &c. vested in the commissioners, &c.

XX. And, whereas complaints are made of improper practices being used in the sale of firewood and hay brought to the said town; Be it therefore further enacted, That the said commissioners, on the said first Monday of April, in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-one, and on the same day and month in every year thereafter, shall nominate and appoint two skilful and discreet persons to be, jointly or severally, the weighers of all hay, and the corders of all firewood, that shall be brought and sold within the said town; and if both or either of the persons so appointed shall die, resign, or refuse to act, or be rendered incapable of acting by reason of misbehaviour or removal from office, the said commissioners shall assemble together as soon thereafter as conveniently may be, and nominate and appoint one or two qualified persons, as the case may be, to fill the vacancy or vacancies for the remainder of the year.

Commissioners to appoint weighers of hay, &c.

XXI. And be it enacted, That every person so to be appointed, before he shall proceed to execute his office, shall take an oath, or affirmation, before the said commissioners, that he will, when required, well and truly, according to the best of his skill and judgment, weigh hay, and cord firewood, without favour, prejudice or partiality, either to the buyer or seller, and that he will not, directly or indirectly, ask, exact or receive, any other or greater fee or reward for doing such duty, than is or shall be allowed by law; and the said oath, or affirmation, shall be administered by the said commissioners, and the taking thereof be entered among their proceedings.

Who shall take an oath, &c.

XXII. And be it enacted, That from and after the said first Monday of April next ensuing, all firewood that shall be brought and sold, or offered for sale, in the said town, shall be set up in some common or other place, and corded and measured by one or both of the persons to be appointed as aforesaid, if either the purchaser or seller shall require the same to be done; and each cord of wood shall be eight feet in length, four feet in height, and four feet in width, and be well stowed and closely packed; and for the trouble in cording, packing, and measuring the same, there shall be paid to the corder or corders the sum of six-pence current money for each cord, the one half to be paid by the buyer, and the other half by the seller.

Firewood to be corded, &c.