

C H A P.
XX.

the sheriff's commission of six *per cent.* for collecting the same, which said monies, so to be assessed and levied, shall be collected by the said sheriff of Dorchester county for the time being, in the same manner and within the same time as other public levies and county taxes are by law to be collected, and shall, at the expiration of the period for the collection thereof, be by him paid over to the said justices, or their order.

How to be
applied.

III. **And be it enacted,** That the said justices be and they are hereby authorized and empowered to apply the said money, when collected, to the purchase of the aforesaid lot of ground adjoining the court-house of said county, whereon the dwelling-house of the late Joseph Dowson, deceased, is erected, and to receive a conveyance of the same for the use of the said county.

Lot to belong
to the county,
&c.

IV. **And be it enacted,** That after the said purchase and conveyance shall have been made as herein directed, the said lot of ground, with the improvements thereon, shall and the same is hereby declared to be the right and property of Dorchester county for ever.

Justices to
meet, &c.

V. **And be it enacted,** That the justices of the levy court of Dorchester county, or any five of them, shall and they are hereby authorized and required to meet at the court-house in the said county on or before the third Monday in March next, for the purpose of contracting for the purchase of the said lot of ground, with the improvements thereon, and if the said justices shall not then be enabled to effect such purchase, it shall and may be lawful for them to appoint Thomas Jones, Levin Woolford and Richard Pattison, Esquires, or any two of them, or such other person or persons as the said justices may appoint, commissioners for the purpose of making such purchase, who shall, without delay, accomplish the same, and make return thereof to the levy court at their next sitting, and any contract made by them shall be valid and obligatory, and the levy court shall carry the same into effect.

Court may
sell a certain
house, &c.

VI. **And be it enacted,** That when the purchase of the said lot shall be accomplished in manner aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for the levy court of the county aforesaid, or such commissioner or commissioners as they may appoint for that purpose, to sell at public sale, on a credit not exceeding twelve months, having first given sufficient notice of the day and terms of sale, all such house and other improvements thereon as the said levy court shall not think proper to be kept for the use of the county, taking bonds, with good and sufficient security, for the payment of the money that may be bid for such improvements, with interest, for the use of the county; and such improvements, so to be sold, shall be removed off the said lot by the respective purchasers in reasonable time; and the bond or bonds that may be taken upon such sale may be assigned in payment for the lot so directed to be purchased as aforesaid for the use of the county, if the proprietor, or other person authorized to sell the same, shall be willing to receive such bond or bonds in payment, and if not, the money due on such bonds shall, when the same shall become due, be collected for the use of said county, to defray the future expences thereof.

And grant
part of the lot
for a street,
&c.

VII. **And be it enacted,** That the said levy court shall be authorized and empowered, after having purchased and secured the said lot, to grant to the commissioners of the town of Cambridge, for the purpose of a street leading from the main street in the said town to Cambridge creek, such portion of the said lot as the said commissioners shall require for that purpose, not exceeding fifty feet in width, at such reasonable price as the said commissioners, and the justices of the levy court, may agree on, and if they cannot agree, such portion of the lot as aforesaid may be condemned by the said commissioners of Cambridge, valued and paid for as in cases of private property under the now existing laws.

VIII. **And,** whereas there are sundry lots in the town of Cambridge leased on ground-rent, of which the fee-simple belongs to Dorchester county, and it appears to this general assembly that the sale of the fee-simple of such

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