

CHAP. 159. shall be prescribed by the said commissioners, all such negro and other slaves as shall be found wandering or strolling about the streets in the night-time, or frequenting the houses of other persons in the said town, without the consent of their masters, mistresses or overseers.

Weigher of hay
and corder of fire
wood to be ap-
pointed.

To take an oath.

Wood to be cor-
ded.

Hay to be un-
packed and
weighed.

Penalty for bar-
tering, &c.

20. *And be it further enacted,* That the said commissioners on the third Monday in September next, and on the same day in every year thereafter, shall nominate and appoint a skillful and discreet person to be the weigher of all hay, and the corder of all fire wood that shall be brought and sold within the said town, and if the said person so appointed, 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 as soon thereafter as conveniently may be, and appoint some other qualified person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year.

21. *And be it enacted,* That every person so to be appointed, before he shall proceed to execute his office, shall take an oath 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 fire-wood, 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 oaths shall be entered among the minutes of the proceedings of the said commissioners.

22. *And be it enacted,* That after the first Monday of October next all fire-wood that be bought and sold or offered for sale in the said town, shall be corded and measured by the person 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 the sum of twelve and a half cents for each cord, the one half to be paid by the buyer and the other half by the seller.

23. *And be it enacted,* That from and after the day last herein mentioned, all hay of what kind soever which shall be brought and sold or offered for sale in the said town, shall be unpacked and weighed by the person appointed as aforesaid, (if either the purchaser or shall require the same to be done,) with proper weights and scales, or with engines to be provided for that purpose, by equal and proportionable assessment, to be levied on the inhabitants and owners of property in said town, whenever the said commissioners and a majority of the persons qualified to vote as aforesaid, shall require the same to be provided, and for the trouble of unpacking and weighing such hay, there shall be paid to the weigher thereof the sum of fifty cents for every ton of net hay, and in the same proportion for a greater or smaller quantity, the one half to be paid by the buyer and the other half by the seller.

24. *And be it enacted,* That no weigher of hay or corder of wood, either by himself, or by any other person in trust for him, shall buy, deal, or barter for any hay or fire-wood on the way, or brought to the said town for sale, except so much as shall be ne-