

1777. OCTOBER.

L A W S O F M A R Y L A N D.

C H A P.
XX.

day of March next, take, repeat and subscribe, the oath of fidelity and support to this state, contained in the act, entitled, (a) An act to punish certain crimes and misdemeanors, and to prevent the growth of toryism; and every free male quaker, menonist or tunker, within this state, above eighteen years of age, shall, on or before the first day of March next, solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm, in the words of the said oath, and thereto subscribe his name.

(a) February, 1777, ch. 20.

Before some
magistrate.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said oath and affirmation shall be taken within the time aforesaid before some magistrate of the county or city where the person who takes such oath or affirmation resides.

Who is to keep
two books, &c.

IV. AND BE IT ENACTED, That every magistrate aforesaid shall keep two paper books; one for all persons who shall take the oath aforesaid, and the other for all persons who shall not take the oath aforesaid, and the other for all persons who shall take the affirmation aforesaid, prefixing to one of the said books the oath aforesaid, and to the other the affirmation aforesaid; and all persons required by this act to take the said oath or affirmation, shall, after taking the same, subscribe his name thereto, in such book as contains the oath, if such person takes the said oath, or in such book as contains the affirmation, if such person takes the said affirmation, and if any such person cannot write his name, he shall make his mark, and the magistrate shall thereto set his name.

Make out co-
pies, &c.

V. AND, for the ascertaining such as shall neglect to take the said oath, or affirmation, and that there may be a record evidence of such neglect, BE IT ENACTED, That every magistrate aforesaid shall make out fair copies of his said books, with all convenient dispatch after the aforesaid first day of March, and the same transmit to the governor and council of this state, and shall deliver the original books to his next county court which shall happen after the said first day of March next, there to be recorded.

And attend one
day in a week,
&c.

VI. AND BE IT ENACTED, That every magistrate of the county shall, and he is hereby enjoined and required, to attend one day in every week, until the said first day of March next, at the most convenient places in his neighbourhood, with his books aforesaid, for the purpose of administering the oath or affirmation aforesaid, and for the purpose of having the same subscribed to, in manner and form aforesaid; and the said justices shall give public notice, by advertisement, of such places and days of meeting as aforesaid.

A list to be
made out, &c.

VII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That every constable of every hundred shall, before the first day of March next, make out a fair alphabetical list of all the free male inhabitants, residents in his hundred, and not out of the state, or hereafter not exempted from taking the said oath, or affirmation, who shall be of the age of eighteen years, on or before the aforesaid first day of March, and a copy of the said list, with all convenient dispatch, transmit to the governor and council, and the original list shall deliver to the next county court of his county which shall happen after the aforesaid first day of March next, there to be recorded.

Allowance to
magistrates,
&c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That every magistrate shall be allowed in the county levy, the same *per diem* allowance, for every day he shall attend in pursuance of this act to take the oath or affirmation aforesaid, as is allowed the justices for their attendance in the county court; and the several county courts are hereby empowered and directed to make the several constables in their counties such allowance for their trouble in making and returning the lists aforesaid, in their next county levy, as to them shall appear reasonable.

Penalty for ne-
glect.

IX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any magistrate shall neglect to keep such books, or shall neglect to make copies and transmit them to the governor and council, or shall neglect to deliver the original books, as respectively required by this act, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred pounds current money; and every constable who shall neglect to make out the list, or neglect to transmit the copy of such list, or shall neglect to return the original list, as respectively required by this act, shall forfeit and pay the sum of two hundred pounds current money.

Persons ne-
glecting to pay,
&c.

X. AND BE IT ENACTED, That every person required by this act to take the oath or affirmation aforesaid, and whose name or mark shall not appear on one of the magistrates books aforesaid, in manner and form prescribed as aforesaid, shall, for and during the life of such person, in all public and county assessments, pay a tax treble the tax which by such public or county assessments shall be imposed upon every hundred pounds worth of real or personal property within this state, and so *pro rata*;