

which you shall act under this commission, freely without sale, fully without denial, and speedily without delay; and you, or any two of you, are appointed and authorized to execute the powers of the said orphans court, honestly and faithfully, according to law, until you shall be duly discharged from your said office. Given under the seal of the state of Maryland, this — day of —. Witness — —, chancellor.'

Orphans
court and
register of
wills.

SEC. 3. Each of the persons named in such commission shall be entitled to hold and exercise his office until a new commission as aforesaid, in which his name shall not be included, shall be produced, and opened in court of which he is a justice.

SEC. 4. Every such commission, if the persons therein named, or any of them, shall qualify under it, shall be recorded in the offices of the registers of wills, amongst the proceedings of the orphans courts whereof they are appointed justices.

SEC. 5. The justices of the orphans court in each county, already commissioned and qualified, shall be and are hereby authorized, until a new commission shall be produced and opened as aforesaid, to hold their offices, and exercise the powers vested in orphans courts by this act, or by any law which shall be in force after the operation of this act shall commence.

SEC. 6. Any person who shall qualify under such commission may also act under a commission as justice of the peace.

SEC. 7. But no person named in such commission to the orphans court shall be authorized to act as justice of the orphans court, until he shall have repeated and subscribed a declaration of his belief in the christian religion, and taken, repeated and subscribed, the oath of allegiance prescribed by the constitution, and the oath of a judge or justice prescribed by the act of February, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, chapter five, and the oath of fidelity to the United States, prescribed by act of congress; and any person named in such commission may administer the said oaths to, and take the declaration aforesaid of, any other named in the commission, but it shall not be necessary for any person named in such commission, who has acted as a justice under the next preceding commission, to qualify on opening the new commission.

SEC. 8. The orphans court shall be held in each county on the second Tuesday in every month of February, April, June, August, October and December, and oftener if need be, according to its own adjournment; and any one of the justices of the said court, in the absence of the others, shall have power to hold the said court, at a stated time of adjournment, only for the purpose of adjourning; any two of them shall have full power to do any act which the said court is or shall be authorized by law to perform, and any two of them shall have power