

by the frequent neglect of such officers to serve and return such process; and it appears to be necessary, for the speedy and due administration of justice, that an effective remedy should be provided in that behalf, therefore,

Process issuing from one county to be served in another, how to be conveyed.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That from and after the passage of this act, the clerk or register of any court within this state, who shall be required to issue any original or judicial writ, subpœna, summons, or other process, to be served in any other county than that in which such court shall usually hold its session, shall issue such process accordingly, directed to the sheriff, coroner, or other proper officer of such other county to whom the same ought to be directed, and shall immediately enclose such process in a letter or cover, sealed up and addressed to the clerk of such other county, and on the back thereof shall endorse his name as clerk of the county, and shall forthwith deposite the same in the nearest post-office, to be conveyed by the ensuing mail to the post-office at the place in which, or nearest to which, the clerk of such other county shall reside; and in such letter or cover shall be written the usual docket entry of such process, so as to show the parties concerned, and the nature and purpose thereof.

Clerks to send to post-offices once a week.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the several clerks of the respective counties of this state, to attend at or send to the post-offices nearest to their residence, at least once a week, and inquire for letters and covers addressed to them; and if such letters or covers shall contain any writ or process directed to the sheriff, coroner, or other officer, of their respective counties, they shall immediately endorse the time when they received the same, and with all convenient speed deliver the same to the sheriff, or other officer, to whom the same may be directed; and shall also endorse thereon the time when the same shall be so delivered to such officer.

On receipt of process, to transmit certificate thereof, &c.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That it shall be the duty of every such clerk who shall receive and deliver any writ or process, in manner and form aforesaid, to transmit by the mail, and in due time before the session of the court to which such process shall be returnable, a certificate, under his hand and seal of office, setting forth the receipt of such process, (which he shall describe in the manner in which it is written in the letter or cover which contained the same) the time when he received the same, the delivery thereof to the officer to whom it was directed, and the time of such delivery; which certificate he shall seal up and address to the clerk or register of the court to which the process is made returnable, and deposite in the nearest post-office, to be conveyed to such clerk accordingly, endorsing his name thereon as herein before directed; and such certificate, in all proceedings relating to the sheriff, or other officer, to whom