

and vested with sufficient powers to forward and effect the purposes intended; therefore,

CHAP 72.

1. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That ten judicious and discreet persons, residing in the said town, or within three miles thereof, and possessed of landed property within the said town, in his own right, or in right of his wife, of the value of one hundred dollars, shall be elected by ballot, on the second Monday in March, in the year eighteen hundred and thirteen(a), at the court-house in the said town, by the free white male inhabitants thereof, above the age of one and twenty years, who have resided within the limits of the said town for the space of one year next preceding the election, and also by persons who have property in the said town, in possession, of the value of thirty dollars, and by such other persons as are hereinafter authorised to vote at such election; and the ten persons who shall have the greatest number of votes at the close of the election, shall be declared to be duly elected the commissioners of the said town, and shall have and exercise the several powers and authorities delegated to them by this act; and every free white male person above the age of one and twenty years, and having a freehold estate, or leasehold property for a term not exceeding one and twenty years, within the limits of said town, shall likewise have a right to vote in the election of the said commissioners, notwithstanding such person may not be resident therein.

Commissioners, when and by whom to be elected.

(a) See, May 1813, ch. 2.

2. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the commissioners so chosen shall assemble on the first Monday in April next ensuing their election, at such place as a majority of them shall fix upon in the said town, and arrange and number themselves into five classes by lot; and the office of the commissioners of the first class shall determine at the expiration of one year after their election; the office of the commissioners of the second class at the expiration of two years; the office of the commissioners of the third class at the expiration of three years; the office of the commissioners of the fourth class at the expiration of four years; and the office of the commissioners of the fifth class at the expiration of five years; and the vacancy thus successively occasioned by the determination of their respective offices, shall be supplied by an election of two judicious and discreet persons, resident and qualified as aforesaid, to be made at such place as the commissioners shall appoint in the said town, by the inhabitants and others qualified to vote as aforesaid, on the second Monday of March in every year(b), and the persons so elected shall remain in office for the term of five years, and the succession of the said commissioners be so continued as that two commissioners shall be chosen annually.

Commissioners to meet and arrange themselves into classes by lots—Their respective terms of service.

(b) By May 1813, ch. 2, if election not then made, it may take place at any time after giving 10 days notice.

3. AND BE IT ENACTED, That any justice of the peace for Worcester county, shall in the first instance be the judge of the said election, and shall return his certificate thereof to the said commissioners, on the day first appointed for their meeting, and the same shall be filed and recorded among their proceedings; and at every subsequent election, the commissioners of the said town,

Judges of elections they shall take an oath.