

collected, for the purpose of constructing two fire-proof vaults in the court-house at Easton; which said vaults shall be adjacent to and connected with the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, and the office of the Register of Wills for said county, and be used for the preservation of the public records belonging to said offices respectively.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That Isaac C. W. Powell, John Mason and Robert B. Dixon, be and they are hereby appointed a committee to devise a suitable plan for said fire-proof vaults, and to contract with the lowest responsible bidder, after public advertisement, for the construction and completion of the same, at a cost not to exceed the sum of three thousand dollars; and on the approval of said committee, and not before, the said Commissioners of Talbot county shall pay the contractor for work done and materials furnished under said contract; and for that purpose the said Commissioners are hereby authorized to borrow such sum of money as may be necessary, and in payment thereof to execute the corporate note of said county with interest thereon; and the sum hereinbefore authorized to be levied, shall be pledged for the redemption of said loan or loans.

Committee to contract

Pay contractor

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That in the event of the death, resignation or removal from the county of any member of said committee, the Commissioners of said county are hereby empowered to fill up the committee by appointment whenever a vacancy occurs.

Vacancy

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted*, That it is hereby made the duty of the Clerk of the Circuit Court and the Register of Wills for Talbot county, to keep the public records belonging to their respective offices, stored in said vaults whenever the same are completed, at all times (except) when said records are not being used; and the bond of said Clerk and of said Register shall be liable for the loss or destruction of any of said records not so kept within said vaults.

Duty of Clerk and Register of Wills

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

In force

Approved, April 2d, 1874.