

office, besides the usual oaths or affirmations as required by the constitution and laws of this state, take the oath, or affirmation, (as the case may be,) above prescribed, before some judge or justice of the court of the county for which such person may be commissioned, and return a certificate of such oath, or affirmation, to the clerk of the court of the county for which such person may be commissioned, there to be recorded as aforesaid.

C H A P.
LXXXVII.

V. And be it enacted, That the different sheriffs or coroners of this state shall not, after the end of this general assembly, summon as a juror in any case, or return upon a pannel as a juror, any person who may not have arrived to the age of twenty-five years, and who doth not possess the other qualifications required by the constitution and laws of this state.

Who shall not
be summon-
ed.

VI. And be it enacted, That after the end of this session of assembly no justice of the peace shall be exempt or privileged from being summoned and returned upon the pannel of jurors to the county court, or general court of this state, any former law to the contrary notwithstanding.

No justice
exempt, &c.

VII. And be it enacted, That after the passage of this act the sheriffs of the several counties of this state shall not permit their deputies, or any of them, to summon any juror or jurors whom they have not directed them to summon.

Deputies not
to summon.

VIII. And be it enacted, That the sheriffs of the several counties of this state shall return to their respective county courts a pannel of forty-eight jurors, qualified as aforesaid, out of which the said respective courts shall direct the clerk to draw, by ballot, twenty-three persons, who shall be impannelled and sworn to serve as grand jurors during the term to which they shall be summoned; and the persons remaining upon the said original pannel shall attend the court, and serve as petit jurors.

A pannel to
be returned,
&c.

IX. And be it enacted, That in all civil cases called for trial in the general and county courts, in which a jury shall be necessary according to the laws and constitution of this state, twenty persons from the pannel of petit jurors shall be drawn, by ballot, by the clerks, under the direction of the said respective courts, and the names of the twenty persons shall be written upon two lists, and one of the said lists shall be forthwith delivered to the respective parties, or their counsel in the cause, and it shall and may be lawful for each of the said parties, or their counsel, to strike out four persons from the said lists, and the remaining twelve persons shall thereupon be immediately impannelled, and sworn as the petit jury in such cause; and if the said parties, or their counsel, or either of them, shall neglect or refuse to strike out from the said lists the number of persons hereby directed, it shall and may be lawful for the respective courts aforesaid to direct their clerks to strike out from the list of the party or parties so neglecting or refusing the number of persons herein before mentioned, and the remaining twelve persons shall be impannelled, and sworn as aforesaid; provided nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall be deemed or construed to take away the right of any person or persons to challenge the array or polls of any pannel returned, in the manner always allowed by the laws of this state, or in any manner to affect or change any of the provisions contained in the act, entitled, A supplement to an act concerning petitions for freedom, passed at November session, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three.

Twenty per-
sons to be
drawn, &c.

C H A P. LXXXVIII.

An ACT relating to the records in the register of wills and clerk's offices in Queen-Anne's county.

Passed Janua-
ry 20.

WHEREAS it appears by the report of Richard Tilghman and Robert Walters, two of the commissioners appointed by a resolution passed at November session, seventeen hundred and ninety-five, to examine and report to the general assembly the state of the records and papers in the

Preamble.