

## CHAPTER CLXXXIII.

*An ACT for laying out competent Districts for the Appointment of Justices of the Peace.*

Section 1. **B**E it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the different counties of this commonwealth, shall be respectively laid out into suitable districts, for the appointment of a competent number of justices of the peace, by the commissioners of each county respectively, agreeably to the rules herein after prescribed; and for this purpose it shall be the duty of the said commissioners to meet together on the fourth Monday of October next, and to continue from day to day, until they have completed a list or draught in numerical order, of the number of districts contained in their respective counties, and shall transmit a duplicate return of the same, containing the number and description of the bounds of each district, the number of taxable inhabitants and the number of acting justices within each, and as near as may be the local residence of such justices, to the office of the Secretary of the commonwealth, on or before the second Tuesday of December next; and the said commissioners shall also transmit one other duplicate of the same to the office of the prothonotary of the respective county, which duplicate the said prothonotary shall enter and record in his office, for doing which he shall receive twenty five cents for each district, by him so recorded.

The several counties to be laid out into districts, for justices of the peace, by the commissioners thereof.

proceedings of the commissioners for that purpose.

Sec. 2.

Greatest number of districts allowed to each county.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the said commissioners shall not lay out their respective counties into a greater number of districts, than is herein directed; *that is to say* the number of districts in the county of Adams, shall not exceed seven districts; Allegheny twelve; Armstrong six; Beaver six; Bedford fifteen; Berks fifteen; Bucks thirteen; Butler six; Centre seven; Chester sixteen; Crawford ten; Cumberland sixteen; Dauphin nine; Delaware six; Erie six; Fayette twelve; Franklin twelve; Green seven; Huntingdon fifteen; Lancaster twelve; Luzerne ten; Lycoming six; Mercer six; Mifflin ten; Montgomery ten; Northampton twelve; Northumberland twenty; Philadelphia six; Somerset seven; Venango six; Warren six; Washington thirteen; Wayne eight; Westmoreland twelve; York fourteen.

Penalty on commissioners neglecting or refusing to serve in the premises.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if the commissioners of any of the counties aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to do and perform the duties required of them by this act, every such commissioner so neglecting or refusing, unless prevented by sickness or other unavoidable accident, shall forfeit and pay the sum of fifty dollars for the use of the county, to be recovered with costs of suit, by action of debt or indictment; at the election of the party prosecuting.

SIMON SNYDER, *Speaker*

*of the House of Representatives.*

ROBERT WHITEHILL, *Speaker*

*of the Senate.*

APPROVED—April the fourth, 1803:

THOMAS M'KEAN, *Governor*

*of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*

CHAP.