

CHAPTER MMXIII.

1799.

An ACT for the appointment and regulation of Constables in the district of Southwark.

SECT. I. *BE 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 from and after the passing of this act, the electors of the district of Southwark shall, on the same day, and at the same place where they meet to choose Inspectors for the election of Commissioners for said district, annually elect six suitable citizens residing in the district aforesaid, and return the names of the persons so elected to the next General Court of Quarter Sessions to be held for the county of Philadelphia, and the said Court shall appoint three of them Constables for the said district; and if either of the said Constables, elected and appointed as aforesaid, refuse or neglect to take upon him the office to which he shall be appointed as aforesaid, or in case of vacancy by dismissal from office for misconduct, death, resignation, or removal from the said district, the Court may and shall appoint another proper person to serve the office of Constable for and during the term or residue of the term, which the person in whose room he shall be so appointed was entitled to serve.

How and when Constables for Southwark shall be elected and appointed.

SECT. II. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That before any Constable of the said district, elected and appointed as aforesaid, shall enter on the duties of his office, he shall become bound by recognizance, with two or more good and sufficient sureties, inhabitants and citizens of the said district, to be approved by the Justices of the said General Court of Quarter Sessions, for the faithful performance of the duties of the office, jointly and severally, in the sum of two hundred dollars,* payable to the commonwealth, in trust for the use and benefit of all and every person or persons, who may be injured or aggrieved by the neglect or improper conduct of such Constable in the execution of the duties of his said office.

Constables elect shall give security for the faithful performance of their duties.

[* Increased to one thousand dollars, by act of 20th March, 1810.]

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any Constable or Constables, elected and appointed under this act, or any person or persons by his or their direction, shall at any time hereafter purchase, on account or for the use of the said Constables, or any of them, at his or their respective sales, any goods, chattels, wares or merchandizes, taken in execution by the said Constables, or any of them, and the same be proved on the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witness or witnesses, such Constable shall forfeit and pay for every such offence any sum not less than ten, nor more than one hundred dollars, one half for the use of the state, and the other for the use of the person who shall inform of and prove the buying aforesaid, to be recovered in any Court of Record in the county of Philadelphia; and on conviction as aforesaid the said Constable shall be disqualified from holding said office for and during the term for which he shall have been appointed.

Penalty if Constables, or any person for them, shall purchase effects at Constables sales.

[SECT. 4. The former provision for electing a High Constable of Southwark, annulled. Obsolete.]

Passed 7th March, 1799.—Recorded in Law Book No. VI. page 351.