

ceived, except those received from the friends or proprietors of that point, at which the county seat has been located.

SEC. 6. The school commissioner of the county of Mason ^{Duty of} as soon as he shall be duly elected, qualified, and commissioned, shall call upon the school commissioners of the counties of Menard and Tazewell, and demand of, and receive from them all notes, bonds, mortgages, or other writings or obligations, which may belong or be coming to said county of Mason; also, the distributive share of the school, college, and seminary fund which said county of Mason shall be entitled to.

SEC. 7. The said county of Mason shall constitute a part of the ——— judicial circuit, and a circuit court shall be held for said county at some convenient house in the village of Havana until the public buildings shall be erected; the time of holding said court shall be appointed by the judge presiding on said circuit. This act to take effect from its passage. ^{Circuit court in said county}

Approved, January 20, 1841.

AN ACT for the formation of the County of Piatt.

In force Jan. 27, 1841.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That all that part of Macon and De Witt counties included within the following ^{Boundaries} boundaries, to-wit: Beginning where the north line of town fifteen north intersects the middle of range four east, and running thence north through the middle of range four to the middle of town nineteen; thence east to the west line of range five; thence north to the north-west corner of town nineteen north, range five east; thence by a direct line to the south-west corner of section seven, town twenty-one north, range six; thence east to the east line of range six; thence south along the east line of range six to the north line of town fifteen north; thence west along the north line of town fifteen to the place of beginning, shall constitute a new county to be called the county of Piatt.

SEC. 2. Until said county shall be organized all elections ^{Place of holding elections} therein shall be held at John Madden's and in Monticello, and the present judges of elections in those precincts shall hold their offices until the county commissioners of Piatt county shall appoint others.

SEC. 3. An election shall be held at the above named ^{Election of county officers} places on the first Monday in April one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, for the purpose of electing all county officers, and the election shall be conducted in all respects as other elections are conducted in this State.

SEC. 4. The poll books of said election shall be carried to ^{Election returns} Monticello, on the Tuesday following the first Monday in April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, and John Hughes, Abraham Marquis, John P. Tinbrook and James Reber, four regular acting justices of the peace in said county,

- (or so many of them as shall then be present) shall open said poll books and count the votes given for each candidate, and cause the result to be proclaimed aloud, naming the persons elected, and the offices to which they were elected, and shall
- Notice of election** make returns of said election to the Secretary of State, and shall do and perform all other duties in relation to said election as are required of clerks of county commissioners' courts in similar cases; and the officers so elected shall continue in office until the next ensuing regular election for such officers, and as soon as said officers shall have been qualified according to law, the county shall be considered as legally organized.
- Duty of clerk** SEC. 5. As soon as the clerk of the county commissioners' court shall have given his bond to the acceptance of the county commissioners, he shall inform the judge of the judicial circuit thereof, who shall thereupon appoint a clerk, and
- Proviso.** hold courts in Monticello, until a county seat shall be permanently established in said county of Piatt: *Provided*, That all suits commenced in Macon or De Witt county, before the county of Piatt is organized as aforesaid, shall be decided in the respective counties in which they were commenced: *And provided further*, That all justices of the peace, constables, and other officers within the bounds of Piatt county shall act in their respective offices until the same shall expire.
- Duty of school commiss'rs.** SEC. 6. As soon as a school commissioner shall be appointed for said county, and given his bond according to law, he shall demand and receive from the school commissioners of Macon and De Witt counties, all moneys, notes, bonds, mortgages, and other writings pertaining to said county of Piatt, and likewise its distributive share of all unexpended State and county school funds.
- Temporary county seat** SEC. 7. All county business shall be done in Monticello, in said county, until a county seat shall be permanently located.
- Location of county seat.** SEC. 8. An election shall be held in said county on the first Monday in April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, for the permanent location of a county seat, and the place receiving the majority of all the legal votes given shall be the county seat; but if no one place shall have received a majority of such votes, the county commissioners shall direct the sheriff of the county to notify the legal voters of said county to meet again on the first Monday in May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, to vote for one of the two places formerly voted for, and having the two highest number of votes formerly given, but no other place shall then be voted for, and the place then having the highest number of votes shall be the county seat.
- Donation of land** SEC. 9. Before such county seat shall be so recorded, the owner or owners of the land upon which the same is to be located, shall within thirty days after the election execute a good warranty deed for twenty-five acres of land for the benefit of the county, and the county commissioners shall cause

the same to be laid off into town lots, in the centre of which shall be laid off one entire block for a public square; but if the highest number of votes be given for any town already laid off, the proprietor or proprietors shall within thirty days after the election aforesaid, make to the county commissioners a good warranty deed to forty lots in said town, at an average value with the rest of the lots in said town, sold and unsold, or in lieu thereof, twenty acres of land adjoining said town, at the option of the proprietor or proprietors aforesaid: *Provided*, That if the county commissioners cannot within Proviso. the time herein specified, select the lots so given to the county, they may name any subsequent day, and the aforesaid deed shall be made in accordance thereto.

SEC. 10. The county commissioners shall meet on the Duty of county com'rs. first Monday in June, and shall perform all the duties required of other county commissioners, and shall levy a tax, which shall be equal on all parts of said county according to the laws of this State.

SEC. 11. And whereas Macon county is involved in a Debt of Macon county apportioned heavy debt, incurred by the erection of a court house in Decatur, and have consented by their petition to the formation of said county of Piatt, upon certain conditions specified in their petition: *Be it therefore further enacted*, First, That William Barnes, George A. Patterson, and N. H. Devore, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners on the part of Piatt county, to meet with the county commissioners of Macon county, at their regular session in June, one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, at which time the before named commissioners shall proceed to ascertain what amount of said court house debt remained unpaid at the close of the year one thousand eight hundred forty, and after deducting therefrom the funds on hand at that time and the debts then owed to Macon county, viz: at the close of the year one thousand eight hundred and forty, they shall afterwards apportion the balance of said court house debt between the parts of Macon county included in Piatt county, and the remaining part of Macon county, according to the tax list of Macon county in one thousand eight hundred and forty. Second, The part of Macon county included in said Piatt county shall be held bound to pay to Macon county its said proportion of said court house debt, and the interest thereon, on the same conditions that Macon county is bound, and the county commissioners of Piatt county shall order the treasurer of said county to pay the treasurer of Macon county, out of the monies collected from the part of Piatt so taken from Macon county, such sum or sums of money as they shall think proper, not less in any one year than the annual dividend due as aforesaid and the interest thereon. Third, *Provided further*, That the commissioners of Piatt county may at any time order the whole of the debt due to Macon county, as aforesaid, to be paid, whenever the funds arising from that part of

Piatt county shall be sufficient therefor, and the same shall be accepted by the commissioners of Macon county, and thenceforth the county of Macon shall have no further claims on any part of Piatt county, on account of said court house debt or interest.

Approved, January 27, 1841.

In force, Feb.
17, 1841.

An ACT to create the County of Grundy from the county of La Salle.

Boundaries of
Grundy coun-
ty

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That all that tract of country, lying and being in the county of La Salle, in township thirty-one, thirty-two, thirty-three and thirty-four north, of ranges six, seven and eight east of the third principal meridian, shall constitute and form a new county, to be called Grundy.

Election of
county offi-
cers.

SEC. 2. An election shall be held at the house of S. Piney, on the fourth Monday of May next, for the purpose of electing one sheriff, one recorder, one county surveyor, one probate justice, one county treasurer, and three county commissioners, and one county commissioners' clerk, who shall hold their offices until the next general election, or until their successors in office shall be elected and qualified; said election shall be conducted according to the laws regulating elections in this State. Perry A. Claypool, Robert Walker, and John Beard, sen. shall be the judges of said election, and shall make the returns within five days after such election to the county commissioners' clerk of La Salle county, and the clerk of said county shall give certificates of election, as in other cases for county officers, and the said county of Grundy shall be organized so soon as the said officers shall be elected and qualified.

Term of office.

Judges of e-
lection

Returns of
election how
made.

Comm'rs to
locate county
seat.

SEC. 3. Ward B. Burnett, Rulief S. Derweya, and William E. Armstrong, be appointed in conjunction with the commissioners of the Illinois and Michigan canal, to locate the seat of justice of the said county of Grundy.

County seat
to be located
on canal lands

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the said commissioners to locate the said seat of justice on the line of the Illinois and Michigan canal, on canal lands, and they shall set apart for this purpose any quantity of the canal lands not exceeding ten acres, and after doing so shall proceed to lay off the said land as a town site, embracing lots, streets, alleys, and a public square, in such manner as they shall deem proper.

To be laid off
in lots

Division of lots
with State
and county

SEC. 5. They shall divide the said lots in equal numbers between the State and the said county, and shall allot to the State and the county alternate lots of equal value, or as nearly so as may be practicable.

Liability of
com'rs for
payment of
money

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of the canal commissioners to require of the said county, and the inhabitants thereof, in their corporate capacity, shall be liable to them for the payment of a sum equal to ten dollars per acre for one half