

An ACT for the relief of Thomas White and John White,
of Dorchester county.

Preamble.

WHEREAS Thomas White and John White, of Dorchester county, by their petition to this general assembly have set forth, that some time in the year seventeen hundred and twenty-one, and before the Indians in the said county, commonly known by the name of the Choptank Indians, were prohibited from selling the lands heretofore surveyed and laid out for them on Choptank river, pursuant to the act of assembly made for that purpose, a certain Isaac Nicolls, late of the said county, deceased, in his life time contracted and agreed with the said Indians, and afterwards obtained a deed from them, bearing date the thirteenth day of June, in the year seventeen hundred and twenty-two, for all that part of those lands surveyed and laid out for them on Choptank river in virtue of the said act, which is contained and described within the metes and bounds mentioned in the same deed; and that the purchase money was honestly paid by the said Nicolls to the said Indians, for the said land, before they were prohibited from selling the same; that the said Isaac Nicolls possessed and held the said land, so purchased by him under the said deed, peaceably during his life; that after his death, the said land descended to Isaac Nicolls, his eldest son and heir at law, who afterwards by his deed, bearing date the fourteenth day of November, in the year seventeen hundred and fifty, sold and conveyed the same land to a certain Ebenezer White, the father of the aforesaid Thomas White and John White; that the said Ebenezer White possessed and held the said land peaceably during his life, and died seised thereof; and that the same land, upon the death of the said Ebenezer, descended to the said Thomas White, the petitioner, as his eldest son and heir at law, who hath, since the death of his said father, by deed, bearing date the fourth day of March, seventeen hundred and seventy-three, conveyed part of the aforesaid land to the aforesaid John White, the other petitioner; that as the act of assembly, made in the year seventeen hundred and twenty-three, entitled, An act for quieting the possessions of the Indians inhabiting on Nanticoke and Choptank rivers, declares all sales, gifts, grants, or leases, made by any of the Indians aforesaid, since November seventeen hundred and twenty-one, null and void; and as the deed aforesaid from the said Indians to the said Isaac Nicolls was executed since, though the contract was made for the said land before that time, the said Thomas White and John White are apprehensive, that their title to the said lands may hereafter be disputed, and therefore prayed that an act of assembly might be passed to establish and confirm their titles to the said lands: And whereas it appears to this general assembly, that the several facts stated in the petition of the said Thomas White and John White are true, and that it is just and reasonable that the prayer of their said petition be granted, and their rights and titles in the said lands be established and confirmed;

Purchase ratified, &c.

II. Be it therefore declared and enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the said purchase of the aforesaid land, so as aforesaid made by the said first mentioned Isaac Nicolls of the said Choptank Indians, and the deed of conveyance so as aforesaid executed, on the thirteenth