

Worcester county which may have been recorded without any certificate of the clerk of any of the courts of this State accompanying the acknowledgment thereof, in cases in which such certificates are necessary and proper, certifying to the official character of the justice of the peace taking the same; and all deeds of conveyance and mortgages of property in said county which have been recorded in said county, without the seal of the notary public before whom the acknowledgment was taken having been first attached when the grantor resided in another State, and the acknowledgment was made in that State, and declared to be valid to all intents and purposes as if such defect and omission did not exist; provided, that the execution and acknowledgment of such deeds and mortgages in all other respects conformed to the laws of this State in such cases made and provided, saving nevertheless, the rights of bona fide purchasers and encumbrancers without notice, and excepting also such as were in suit in courts of law or equity on May 31, 1882.

See sec. 53.

DRAINAGE.

1916, ch. 416. 1920 Code, sec. 95.

71. After the passage of this Act, the County Commissioners of Wicomico and Worcester Counties are hereby fully empowered to take such steps as they may deem proper to drain the lands along the upper waters of the Pocomoke River in said two counties by clearing out and deepening the bed of said River, where it runs through said swamp lands and by causing to be cut proper drains into said River through said lands, so as to drain the same.

1916, ch. 416. 1920 Code, sec. 96.

72. Before undertaking said work said County Commissioners of Worcester County shall select a suitable engineer and the County Commissioners of Wicomico County shall likewise select a suitable engineer, and said two engineers shall jointly proceed to lay out a swamp district in each of said counties and ascertain the number of acres of land in said swamp district and also the number of acres in each county and shall make suitable plots of the same and shall lay off the swamp land in each county into divisions or zones according to the benefits it will receive, in their judgment, from said drainage and the total cost in their judgment of draining said land.

1916, ch. 416. 1920 Code, sec. 97.

73. Before beginning said work the County Commissioners of each of said Counties shall adopt said report with full power in them to amend, adopt, or reject said report and plans or to modify the same in such manner as they may deem proper.

1916, ch. 416. 1920 Code, sec. 98.

74. After the adoption of suitable plans for doing said work, the County Commissioners of the two Counties shall advertise for bids in whole