

to probate, grant to such slave or slaves, his, her or their freedom, to take effect at the date of said instrument, or at such future time as may be limited by said instrument, and that a copy of such record duly attested under the seal of such office where said deed, or last will and testament, may be recorded, shall be good and sufficient evidence to prove such freedom; and all manumissions made or attempted to be made by deed, or last will and testament, since the enactment of said sections forty-two and forty-three, prohibiting manumissions, are hereby ratified and made valid, with the consent of the parties interested, as if said prohibitions had not existed; but that no slave manumitted, or hereafter to be manumitted, shall be entitled to vote at any election, or be capable of holding any office of profit or trust, or of giving evidence against any white person.

2. Any executor, administrator or guardian may execute in the manner and form provided in the foregoing section, a deed of manumission to or for any slave or slaves belonging to, and the property of, their deceased testator, or intestate, or ward, in all cases where such slave or slaves shall have been enlisted in the military service of the United States, to enable said executor, administrator or guardian to recover compensation for such slave or slaves, and all deeds of manumission so executed shall be valid and effectual to all intents and purposes to confer freedom upon such slave or slaves.

In force from February 11, 1864.

ARTICLE LXXI.

Oysters.

Chapter 333 amends and re-enacts section 1, as follows:

SEC. 1. It shall be lawful for any person or persons to use such tongs and rakes as may suit their convenience in taking or catching oysters within the waters of this State.

In force from March 10, 1864.