

ize the use of said canoe or boat in taking or catching oysters on either side of the dividing channel of said river, for sale to any person; provided, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to conflict with the rights of owners or occupants of lands bordering on said river secured and protected under existing laws.

1886, ch. 206.

253. It shall be lawful for citizens of Dorchester county to catch oysters with scoops or dredges in boats owned by said citizens, not exceeding ten tons burthen, according to rules of custom house measurement, in Honga river, Hooper's straits, Holland straits, Tar bay, and that part of Fishing bay which lies to the southward and westward of a straight line drawn from the middle of the mouth of Tediis creek to Clay island light-house, and in all the waters to the southward and eastward of Clay island, in Dorchester county, and adjoining the Wicomico lines, up to Sandy island, and in the waters of the Great Choptank river where it is now lawful to take oysters with scrapes or dredges; but no boat licensed under sections 255, 256 and 257, shall catch oysters within two hundred yards of the shore; and the county commissioners shall furnish two suitable buoys, and the captain of the police sloop guarding these waters shall keep said buoys anchored on said line from Tediis creek to Clay island light-house.

Ibid.

254. It shall not be lawful for any dunnaged boat, canoe or vessel to be employed to catch oysters with scoops or light dredges in the waters of Dorchester county; and all timbers more than an average of five inches in depth used in the construction of said boat, to which her bottom is fastened, or any and all other materials used to make the average space between the ceiling and bottom planks over five and one-half inches, and all ceiling over two inches thick, and any or all materials used between ceiling and deck to decrease custom-house tonnage, shall be considered dunnage; and the school commissioners for said county shall, in August of each year, appoint some competent citizen of said county to examine all boats over seven tons (custom-house measurement), prior to the granting by said clerk of the circuit court for said county to such boats of a license to catch oysters with scoops.