

## CHAPTER 176.

AN ACT to authorise the Orphans' Court of Dorchester county to make a distribution of the personal estate of Samuel Dunnock, late of said county, deceased. Passed May 9, 1853.

WHEREAS, a distribution of the personal estate of Samuel Dunnock, late of Dorchester county, deceased, was made in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-one, which appears upon its face to have been ratified and approved by the Orphans' court of said county on the fourth day of September, in the year aforesaid; *and whereas*, it is uncertain whether said distribution was ever, in fact, laid before said court and approved by them; *and whereas*, none of the legatees of the said Samuel had any notice of said distribution until after the time limited by law for an appeal had expired; *and whereas*, Barzillai Slacum and Sarah B. Slacum, his wife, formerly Sarah B. Dunnock, widow of the said Samuel, being fully satisfied that said distribution, was not in accordance with law, or with the last will and testament of the said Samuel, and clearly in prejudice of their just rights, had filed their petition in said court, praying that said distribution might be set aside and a new one made, whereby the personal estate of the said deceased might be distributed among the legatees mentioned in his will according to their respective rights in law; *and whereas*, during the pendency of said petition in said court, and before any order had been passed thereon, all the records and original papers relating to or connected with the settlement of the said deceased's estate were destroyed in the office of the register of wills of the county aforesaid by fire, in the month of May, in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-two; *and whereas*, a certified copy of the said distribution is now on file in the office of the clerk of the circuit court for the county aforesaid, which truly and fairly exhibits the description and amount of the personal estate of the said Samuel, subject to distribution among the legatees mentioned in his will; *and whereas*, it would be to the interest and advantage of all the parties interested to have the said estate legally distributed under the authority and direction of the court aforesaid; Therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That upon the petition of Barzillai Slacum and Sarah B. Slacum, of Dorchester county, or upon the petition of the executors, or of any one, or of all the legatees mentioned in the last will and testa- Authority to make distribution.