

Effective.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect from and after the date of its passage.

Approved March 15, 1852.

Chapter 68.

AN ACT to pay a sum of money to Daniel J. Saunders.

Preamble.

WHEREAS a vessel known as the schooner "Ann" was arrested and her master and crew convicted of violation of the oyster law, and the said vessel was sold by proper process of law for the payment of the fine of said master and crew, and the cost of the case, by the sheriff of Anne Arundel county, at public auction, at which sale Daniel J. Saunders became the purchaser of said schooner for the sum of two hundred and ten dollars, which was paid to the said sheriff and by him into the Treasury of the State; and whereas, after said purchase, and while the purchaser was repairing said schooner, having expended in various ways a large sum of money therein, the said schooner was seized and taken possession of by the United States Marshal for the district of Maryland under libel of the said crew for wages due and mechanics' liens, and of said master attacking the constitutionality of said law, and claiming one thousand dollars damages for false arrest and detention of property, and to defend which suits in the United States District Court, in which were involved the constitutionality of the State law, as well as the sovereign right of the State to make such arrest and condemnation, the said Saunders was compelled to employ counsel; and whereas, after said seizure of said schooner by said marshal, she being in a leaky condition because of the progress of said repairs, and the expense of being kept in the marshal's custody being so great, an order was passed by said District Court requiring the marshal to sell said schooner, and after trial of the causes in said court the judgment of the court sustained the constitutionality of the law, and upheld the right of the State by dismissing said libels, and awarded

Preamble.