

Anne Arundel county, deceased, bearing date the — day of October, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, duly executed and recorded in Liber B. E. G., number one, folio four hundred and fifty-five, &c., one of the will Record Books of said county, all the negro slaves of the said testator were bequeathed to a certain Eliza Randall, of said city and county, the widow of said testator, during her natural life, and then to be free; *and whereas*, the said testator departed this life in the month of February in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one, after the act of eighteen hundred and sixty, chapter three hundred and twenty-two, prohibiting the manumission of negro slaves had taken effect; and this General Assembly is willing to carry out the wishes of said testator in exercising a power which he legally possessed at the date of the execution of his said last will and testament; therefore,

Empowered
to manumit
slaves.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the said Eliza Randall, widow of the said testator and the executrix of and residuary legatee, under the said last will and testament, be and she is hereby authorized and empowered, by her last will and testament, or by deed or deeds of manumission, duly executed and recorded among the records of Anne Arundel county, to manumit and set free after her death, the said negro slaves, and any and all issue which they may have had since the death of the said testator, and which they may have during the life of the said Eliza Randall; any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

In force.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from the day of its passage.