

**CHAP. 167.** said charter or constitution, be and the same are hereby declared to be valid in law to all intents and purposes.

CHAPTER 167.

Passed Mar. 11, 1837. *An act to authorise Henry Harman, a free man of colour, of Worcester County, to set free his wife and children, who are his slaves for life.*

Preamble;]

WHEREAS, it is represented to this General Assembly, that a certain Henry Harman, a free man of colour, of Worcester county, several years prior to the passage of the law of eighteen hundred and thirty-one, chapter two hundred and eighty-one, purchased his wife and children from Robert I. Handy, of the same county, who were the slaves for life of the said Handy, with the intention of securing their freedom; and whereas, instead of a deed of manumission being given, as was intended, a bill of sale was executed to the said Harman, whereby they became his slaves for life, and he being desirous of giving them freedom;—Therefore,

Permission granted

**SECTION 1.** *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the said Henry Harman is hereby authorised to manumit and set free his said wife and children, whom he purchased from the said Robert I. Handy, and that they may remain in this State as free persons of colour, any thing in any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Record directed

**SEC. 2.** *And be it enacted,* That the clerk of Worcester county court, is hereby required to receive and record any deed of manumission which may be given by virtue of this act, and to deliver to such manumitted negroes, certificates of freedom, whenever demanded, as is now usual according to the existing laws of this State.