

either of them, or any justice of the orphans court of Anne-Arundel county, be and he or they are hereby authorised and required, to grant to Walter Cross, of Anne-Arundel county, the benefit of the several acts of assembly passed for the relief of insolvent debtors; *Provided*, that the said Cross shall comply with the provisions of the said insolvent laws, in all other respects except that of proving residence; *And provided*, he shall satisfy the judge, or justice of the orphans court, that he did not come into this state with the intention of obtaining the benefit of the insolvent laws of this state.

CHAP. 150.

## CHAP. CLI.

*An Act to prevent the assemblage of Persons of Colour in Prince-George's County.* Passed Mar 11, 1828

WHEREAS it has been represented to this general assembly, by sundry citizens of the fifth election district of Prince-George's county, that there is in said district a meeting-house used exclusively by persons of colour, as a place of public worship, and that said house is a nuisance to the neighbourhood, and tends to demoralizing the slaves; therefore,

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That from and after the passage of this act, it shall not be lawful for persons of colour, whether slaves or free, to assemble at any house or other place in the fifth election district, (commonly called Piscataway,) of Prince-George's county, either under the pretext, or for the purpose of public worship, except from seven o'clock in the forenoon to five o'clock in the afternoon, on all Sundays, Christmas day, Easter Monday, and Whit-Monday; *Provided*, that nothing herein contained shall ever be construed to prevent persons of colour, free or slaves, from attending places of public worship wherever and whenever the same is attended by white citizens.

Prohibited assembling at certain houses

Sec. 2. *And be it enacted*, That if persons of colour shall assemble contrary to the provisions of this act, it shall be the duty of the constables of the county to arrest and take them before a justice of the peace, who shall adjudge such moderate punishment to slaves as he in his judgment shall think proper, and impose such moderate fine on free persons of colour as he may deem proper and necessary to prevent a repetition of the offence, which fine, when collected by the constables, shall be paid over to the managers of the Sunday school in said district, and if there shall be no Sunday school existing at the time, to the commissioners of the school fund for Prince-George's county.

Penalty for so doing