

of some of the said children, it will be many years before they will all be capable of joining in any arrangement for partition by deed, and that the interests and estates of said children respectively, would be greatly prejudiced and spoiled by being so cut up and subdivided; and the petitioners having, in and by their said petition, represented that they have preferred a like petition to the Legislature of Delaware, and having prayed this General Assembly, to provide (by and with the concurrence of the Legislature of Delaware,) by a special law, for making the whole of the said lands, tenements and hereditaments, the subject of a single assignment of dower, and partition of the residue, in such manner that each of the said children of said deceased, may have his or her share or portion of said lands, tenements, and hereditaments, laid off in one parcel or contiguous parcels, as judicious commissioners, to be appointed in this behalf shall deem right, doing equal justice to all the parties concerned; and this General Assembly considering it reasonable and proper, in behalf of orphan children, to grant the prayer of said petition—Therefore:

SECTION I. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Jesse Knock, Edward Coppage, Noah Merchant, George N. Newnam, and Samuel Vickers, of Queen Anne's county, in this State, with such other persons, not exceeding five in number, as the Legislature of the State of Delaware shall appoint for that purpose, are hereby appointed commissioners, and authorized, empowered and required to go to the said lands, tenements and hereditaments, of which the said John Cummins, deceased, died seized as aforesaid, as well those situated in the State of Delaware as those situated in this State, and with the assistance of a skillful surveyor, by them to be nominated and appointed, lay off and allot unto the said Susan W. Cummins, widow as aforesaid, one equal third part of the said lands, tenements, and hereditaments, regard being had to their quality as well as quantity, to have and to hold to the said Susan W. Cummins, and for her use for and during the term of her natural life, and no longer, as her dower therein; and the said commissioners are hereby further authorized, empowered and required, to make partition of the remaining two thirds of the said lands, tenements and hereditaments, into twelve equal parts, regarding quality as well as quantity, and to allot and assign one of those twelve equal parts to the said Susan H. Cummins, to be held by, and to and for the use of the said Susan H. Cummins, her

Commissioners named

To lay off dower

Partition the rest into 12 parts