

after the expiration of said period declaring said slaves free, which deeds have been either not attested by two witnesses, or not recorded, prior to the passage of said act, whereby such slaves are deprived of the benefits intended by said deeds—Therefore, *Be it enacted*, That such deeds, if recorded prior to the first day of October next, shall be as valid as if they had been attested according to law, and recorded prior to the passage of said act.

CHAP. 296.

May be recorded prior to 1st October next.

Sec. 3. *And be it enacted*, That any deeds of manumission, executed and recorded before the passage of the act of December session, eighteen hundred and thirty-one, chapter three hundred and twenty-three, and attested only by one witness, shall be as good and effectual to all intents and purposes, as if they had been attested by two witnesses, and according to law; and a copy from the record of any such deed; shall have the same effect as if said deed had been duly attested, and recorded within the time prescribed by law.

Certain deeds of manumission, having but one witness.

Made valid.

Sec. 4. *And be it enacted*, That if any slave or any person, for or in behalf of such slave, shall, previously to the passage of the act to which this is a supplement, have entered into an agreement, or understanding, for the purchase or acquisition of the freedom of the said slave, with the person or persons entitled to the services of such slave, and there shall have been paid or performed all or any portion of the stipulated price or consideration for such freedom, before the passage of this act, and the slave shall have been or shall hereafter be manumitted, in consideration of the entire payment or performance of said price, or consideration, it shall be the duty of any orphans' court of this State, or of the Baltimore city court, when satisfied of the facts aforesaid, by testimony, to grant a permit to such manumitted slave, or to the issue born after such manumission of such slave, if such slave be a female, to remain as free in this State, to the same effect, as if the act to which this is a supplement had not been passed; and it shall be the duty of the clerks of the county courts, upon the production and exhibition of such permits, to record the same, and to grant to the said slave or issue aforesaid, certificates of his, her, or their freedom.

Case of slave, &c having contracted for and partially paid for freedom.

Prior tract of 1821

On fulfilling his contract.

Entitled to continue in the State as free.

• Record thereof.

Sec. 5. *And be it enacted*, That every firelock, of every kind, and every military weapon, which shall have, antecedently to the passage of this act, been taken away from any free negro or mulatto, and shall not have been forfeited to the use of the informer, according to the sixth section of the act, passed at December session, eighteen hundred and

Free arms, &c in possession of one yet forfeited, &c.