

certified by the said commissioners, and have further stated, that great loss, damage and inconvenience, would be sustained by all the parties interested if partition were to be made of the said lands under the existing laws of Delaware and Maryland, and have prayed that the agreement as aforesaid entered into should be rendered binding on the infant representatives of the said James Black, as well as those of full age; and this general assembly, being of opinion that the infants aforesaid will be greatly benefitted by a confirmation of the partition so as aforesaid made, therefore,

C H A P.
XC.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the *General Assembly of Maryland*, That if the return of the proceedings of the commissioners aforesaid, together with the plots certified by them, be made to the respective county courts of Cæcil and Kent, and shall be approved by them, and ordered to be recorded among the records of their county, in that case the partition and allotment as made, returned and recorded as aforesaid, shall remain firm and stable for ever, and the said partitions and allotments shall be held and enjoyed in severalty, subject nevertheless to the payment severally of the certain sums of money in gross for owelty and equality of partition, as contained and specified in the said return of the said commissioners, and subject also, and severally charged, with the payment annually, by way of rent-charge of the certain sum of money each, as contained in the said return, to the said Mary Black, widow, for and during her natural life, which shall and is hereby declared to be in lieu of, and full satisfaction for, her dower of and in the said real estate.

On return, &c.
partition to re-
main firm, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That a duly certified copy or copies of the return of the said commissioners of their proceedings, together with the plots aforesaid, when so returned, approved and recorded as aforesaid, shall and may be given in evidence in all courts of law and equity; provided nevertheless, that this act shall not be in force until a law similar in principle, and co-operative in effect, shall be enacted by the legislature of Delaware.

Copy, when re-
turned, may be
given in evi-
dence, &c.

C H A P. XCI.

An ACT empowering the chancellor to direct a sale of the real estate of Richard Jacob Duckett, late of Prince-George's county, deceased, for the purposes therein mentioned.

Passed 7th of
January, 1804.

WHEREAS Sophia Duckett, widow of Richard Jacob Duckett, late of Prince-George's county, deceased, Isaac Duckett, brother and administrator of the said deceased, and Thomas Buchanan, guardian to the infant children of the said deceased, have, by their petition to this general assembly, represented, that it will be greatly to the benefit and advantage of the children of the said Richard Jacob Duckett, that his real estate, at or adjoining Queen-Anne, in the county aforesaid, should be sold, and the money produced thereby loaned out on interest for the benefit of the said minors;

Preamble.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the *General Assembly of Maryland*, That on application of the said Sophia Duckett, Isaac Duckett and Thomas Buchanan, the chancellor shall and he is hereby authorised and empowered to direct the real estate of the said Richard Jacob Duckett, at or adjoining Queen-Anne, in Prince-George's county, to be sold on such terms, and in such manner, as to him shall seem proper, and that the money arising from the sale thereof shall be applied to the use and benefit of the children of the said Richard Jacob Duckett, in such manner as the chancellor may or shall direct and appoint; provided, that such sale not be decreed, unless it shall appear to the chancellor, on an examination of all circumstances, that it will be for the advantage of said minors; and in case a sale shall be decreed, under or in virtue of this act, and the said Sophia Duckett shall be willing to relinquish her dower therein, she may do it, by signing a relinquishment thereof in writing, and the chancellor shall thereupon allow her such an equivalent for her dower, out of the proceeds of the land, as to him shall seem equitable and right.

On application,
chancellor may
direct a sale,
&c.

C H A P. XCII.

An ACT for the valuation of real and personal property within this state.

Passed 7th of
January, 1804.

BE IT ENACTED, by the *General Assembly of Maryland*, That all real and personal property in this state, except property belonging to this state, or the United States, houses for public worship, burying-grounds, or property belonging to any county, or to any college, or to any county school, and except also the crop and produce of the land in the hands of the person whose land produced the same, or in the hands of the tenant, and provisions necessary for the use and consumption of the person to whom the same shall belong, and his family, for the year, and plantation utensils, the working tools of mechanics and manufacturers, actually and constantly employed in their respective

Property to be
valued, &c.