

CHAP. 164. hundred and forty-one, chapter two-hundred and seventy-two, be and the same is hereby so modified that it shall not be obligatory on the grand juries of the several counties of this state, to summon the postmasters and their deputies, before them unless they in their judgment shall deem it necessary, and then only to summons such postmasters and deputies as they may deem proper.

Justice to issue warrant to constable, &c.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That if any person shall have good reason to believe that any free negro or mulatto, is concerned or engaged in concealing, or circulating abolition papers, or furnishing free papers to slaves, or papers purporting to be such, and make oath to that effect before a justice of the peace, the said justice shall issue a warrant directed to some constable, authorising said constable to summon not less than three respectable citizens, and with their aid and assistance to examine and search the houses and premises, of such free negro or mulatto, for abolition or free papers, using as little violence to the feelings of such free negro or mulatto, as is compatible with a faithful and diligent search.

#### CHAPTER 164.

Passed March 2, 1843. *An act for the benefit of the heirs of Benjamin Witter, late of Washington County.*

Preamble.

WHEREAS, it has been represented to this General Assembly of Maryland, that it will be to the advantage of the heirs of Benjamin Witter, late of Washington county, deceased, to exchange a portion of the lands belonging to the said heirs, for a portion equal in value, belonging to a certain Elias Davis—therefore,

Upon filing petition, Orphans Court to act.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the orphans court of Washington county upon the filing of a petition in said court by Elias Davis, and by Sophia Witter administrators of Benjamin Witter, of Washington county, praying for an exchange of said real estate, between the parties, and upon being satisfied by proof that it will be to the interest of the heirs of Benjamin Witter, to obtain such exchange, the quantity not to exceed three acres, with the said Elias Davis for the said quantity of land, to be contiguous to the said estate of the heirs of Benjamin Witter, and upon the ratification by the orphans court of Washington county, of said exchange of the real estate belonging to the heirs of Benjamin Witter, and Elias Davis, the same shall be as valid and binding between the parties as if the said heirs were of lawful age.