

CHAP 554. lands situate in Worcester county, to his three sons, John K. H. Perdue, James W. B. Perdue, and Elijah C. W. Perdue, to be equally divided between them and their heirs, that after the death of the said James Perdue, John K. H. Perdue, one of said devisees obtained from Worcester county court a writ of partition to divide said land between said devisees under said will, and that pursuant to said authority a division or partition of said land was duly made, and a report or return of said partition was also made to said court, and the same admitted to record, that said partition was made and recorded about the year eighteen hundred and three, that said divisions after said partition, severally took possession of the lands allotted to them respectively, under said writ of partition, that said lands have from the time of partition until the present time, been held by said devisees, and those claiming under them, according to the courses, metes and bounds, designated and described in the return to said writ of partition, and re-surveys have since been made by the said James W. B. Perdue, John K. H. Perdue, and by John B. Perdue, on a part of the land allotted to Elijah C. W. Perdue, of said partitions, under special warrants granted to them for that purpose; *and whereas*, the original return of said writ of partition, and the record thereof, and all other proceedings under said writ of partition are represented to have been destroyed by the burning of the court house in Worcester county, and that an extract of said return made of said partition, showing the lands allotted to each devisee under said will, with the courses, metes and bounds thereof, made and signed by John C. Handy, Esquire, late clerk of said county court, is the only evidence remaining of said partition of said lands; *and whereas*, it is desirable by the parties interested in said lands, that said extract of said return should be preserved and made legal testimony to establish in and to said lands, divided as aforesaid—Therefore,

Clerk to receive, file and record, etc.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the clerk of Worcester county court, be and he is hereby authorised and required upon his being satisfied that said extract or copy of the return of a writ of partition of the lands therein mentioned, was made by the late clerk of said county court, to receive, file, and record said extract or copy of said return of said partition among the land records of said county, and an authenticated copy of said record shall be received and admitted as prima facie evidence of the division and title to said devisees and those claiming under them, in and to said lands therein