

of free negroes, in cases, where they may lawfully bind the same; the said Courts shall have power to increase the freedom dues to said apprentices, to such extent as in their judgment may be right and proper, but in no case shall they exceed double the amount now provided.

Court may remunerate.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That the said Courts in the binding of such apprentices, shall have power to inquire into the manner and expense of raising such children, and shall have power to provide for, and secure to the parents, relation or other person, who may have raised such child, or proportionably, where the circumstances require it, such sum or sums, to be paid by the master or mistress, as the said Courts may think reasonable and just under all the circumstances.

Orphans' court to make inquiry.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That justices of the peace binding such apprentices, shall exercise the same powers as the justices of the Orphans' Courts, as hereinbefore provided, and that the Orphans' Courts before they receive or confirm such indentures shall inquire into the facts and circumstances of such freedom dues and compensation for raising such children, and if they think it expedient, to require them to conform to the practice and opinion of the Courts before they shall sanction such Indentures.

In force.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect from its passage.

CHAPTER 88.

Passed Mar. 6, 1856. AN ACT for the relief of Ann Brown and William J. Stone.

Preamble.

WHEREAS, Ann Brown and William J. Stone, by their petition, set forth that they are grievously injured by the action of certain Commissioners, appointed by the Commissioners of Kent county, to assess the damages caused by the new road beginning near the lands of Mr. Thomas and others, and running to the head waters of Langford's

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AN ACT to J. M. Gwi under the of Appeal

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SEC. 2. A take effect fro