

his appointment. But it shall not be inferred from anything herein contained that it is not competent for the Judge of the proper Judicial Circuit to appoint in every such cause, where the parties forbear to exercise the power of appointment, a special Judge to sit therein having all the powers of the respective Court where such cause is pending, to bind and conclude all parties thereto by his proceedings and decision; for it is hereby expressly declared, to remove all doubt upon the subject, that every person appointed to sit as special Judge in any such cause by the Judge authorised to make the appointment, is by virtue thereof vested with all the powers aforesaid.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted*, That it shall not be necessary for the person appointed to sit as special Judge in any such cause, to be sworn in open Court; but that he may be sworn by the Clerk of the Court in which such cause is pending at any time and place either in open Court or vacation, before he proceeds to act, and that previous to his taking the prescribed oath, if the parties to the suit prefer to supersede him, they may with their joint consent do so, by appointing some other person, to sit as special Judge in the cause; of which appointment they shall give notice in writing to said Clerk, to be filed and preserved with the other papers in the cause.

Not necessary for special Judge to be sworn in open court.

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect from the day on which it may be passed.

In force.

CHAPTER 140.

AN ACT to extend the equitable powers of the Circuit Courts in the different Judicial Districts, in this State.

Passed Mar. 8, 1856.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That in all cases where a bill shall be filed or proceedings had for the purpose of vacating or declaring null and void any deed of manumission, to take effect in future, of any negro or negroes, mulatto or mulattoes, upon the ground of

Not necessary to serve the usual subpoena, but court may appoint guardian.