

C H A P.  
XLIV.

more parcels of ground in the said town and county, not exceeding in the whole three acres, in such place or places as they shall think most convenient for the uses and purposes aforesaid, and to take one or more deed or deeds to the said vestry, and their successors, for ever, and that the said deed or deeds, when executed, acknowledged and recorded, with the solemnities required by law for the conveyance of real estates, shall be good and effectual in the courts of law and equity in this state, and the vestry of the said parish, and their successors, shall be vested with an estate in fee-simple therein; saving nevertheless to the state of Maryland, and all bodies politic and corporate, and all persons not mentioned in this act, their several and respective rights.

C H A P. XLV.

An ACT concerning petitions to the general assembly.

Passed De-  
cember 26.

Preamble.

**W**HEREAS it may happen that facts may be disclosed by petitions preferred to the general assembly, of which advantage may be taken, to the injury of the party petitioning; therefore,

Right not to  
be invali-  
dated, &c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That whenever any petition or petitions shall be presented to the general assembly by any person or persons to confirm his, her or their title to any land within this state, or for any other purpose whatever, the right or claim of such person or persons, his, her or their representatives, to any matter or thing contained therein, shall not be invalidated by any means whatever until the end of the session of assembly to which the same shall be preferred; provided, that nothing in this act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to prevent or delay any suit or suits, execution or executions, against the property of such petitioner or petitioners.

C H A P. XLVI.

An ACT respecting writs of inquiry.

Passed De-  
cember 25.

Preamble.

**W**HEREAS great expences necessarily attend the executing of a writ of inquiry issued upon an interlocutory judgment obtained in the general court, or in any of the county courts: And whereas the real merits of the case cannot be fully considered and examined when intricate questions of law occur in the course of the inquiry; therefore,

In certain  
cases the court  
may, on moti-  
on, make an  
order, &c.

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That from and after the end of this present session of assembly, in all cases when an interlocutory judgment is entered in the general court, or in any of the county courts, whereby the right of the plaintiff is established, but the damages sustained by him cannot be ascertained without the intervention of a jury, the court where such judgment is given may and shall, on the motion of the plaintiff, or of his attorney, make an order, in the nature of a writ of inquiry, to charge the jury attending at the same, or at the next term, to inquire of the damages and costs sustained by the plaintiff in such action, which said inquiry shall be made, and the evidence given, in open court, in the same manner, and under the same regulations, as in other jury trials; and after the said jury, charged as aforesaid, shall have considered thereof, they shall forthwith return their inquisition, under their hands and seals, and thereupon the said court may and shall proceed to judgment, as upon inquisitions of that kind returned by the sheriff.

An act repeal-  
ed.

III. *And be it enacted,* That the act of assembly, entitled, An act for the amendment of the law, and the speedier advancement of justice in relation to the assessing of damages, be and hereby is repealed.

C H A P. XLVII.

A Supplement to the act, entitled, An act for the better regulation of apprentices.

Passed De-  
cember 25.Two justices  
may bind out  
any child, &c.

**B**E it enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That at any time, when the orphans court of a county be not in session, any two justices of the peace of such county shall and they are hereby empowered, to bind out