

C H A P. XXVII.

An ACT for the benefit of Richard Ireland Jones, of Queen-Anne's county. Passed Jan. 15.

WHEREAS Richard Ireland Jones, late of the kingdom of Great-Britain, now of Queen-Anne's county, some years past came into this state with a *bonâ fide* intention to reside therein, and hath since married and acquired considerable real estate: And whereas the said Richard Ireland Jones took the oaths of naturalization prescribed by the laws of this state, and the act of congress of November session, seventeen hundred and ninety-four, entitled, An act to establish an uniform rule of naturalization, and to repeal the act heretofore passed on that subject, in order to become a citizen of this state, and of the United States, and doubts have arisen, whether the purchases, sales and contracts, of and for real estate, made and executed by the said Richard Ireland Jones, previous to his naturalization agreeably to the said act of congress, are good and valid; therefore,

II. BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That all conveyances, purchases and contracts, touching or concerning real estate lying in the state of Maryland, made, executed or entered into, by or to the said Richard Ireland Jones, since his coming into this state, shall have the same effect, operation and validity, as if the said Richard Ireland Jones had been naturalized at the time the same were executed or entered into; provided, that nothing in this act contained shall affect the rights of third persons accruing before the passage of this act. Conveyances, &c. to have effect, &c.

C H A P. XXVIII.

An ACT for changing part of the divisional road between Somerset and Worcester counties, and for changing part of a road in Worcester county called the Black-foot road. Passed Jan. 15.

WHEREAS it is represented to this general assembly, by the petition of George Parker, of Somerset county, that he is possessed of sundry tracts of land in Somerset and Worcester counties, through which the divisional road of Somerset and Worcester counties, and the Black-foot road, now run, to the great injury of the said George Parker: And whereas it appears that changing the said roads will redound to the interest of the said George Parker, and promote the convenience of the public; therefore,

II. BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That John Dashiell, of Jesse, William Heron, James Weatherly Waller, William Chaille and Levin Handy, of Rhode-Island, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners, or any three or more of them are hereby authorized to change, lay out and open, at the expence of the said George Parker, two public roads, in the most convenient directions, not exceeding thirty feet wide, one of said roads to lead from or near Parker's mills towards Salisbury, so far as the said George Parker's lands may extend, if necessary, and the other public road to lead from or near Parker's mills aforesaid towards Black-foot, so far as the said Parker's lands extend, if necessary; and the said roads, when laid out and completed at the expence of the said George Parker aforesaid, shall be recorded among the records of Somerset and Worcester county courts, and shall be thereafter deemed and taken as public roads for ever, and shall be kept in repair in the same manner as the present public roads are respectively kept in repair. Commissioners appointed, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That after the public road aforesaid to lead from or near Parker's mills towards Salisbury shall be laid out and completed as aforesaid, it shall be taken and deemed, in the same manner as the old road, the division between Somerset and Worcester counties, so far as the said road extends, for ever thereafter. Road to be deemed the division, &c.

C H A P. XXIX.

An ACT for the benefit of Stephen White, and others, of Worcester county. Passed Jan. 15.

WHEREAS Stephen White, of Worcester county, for himself and others, proprietors of stages running from Philadelphia to Norfolk, by the way of Dover and Snow-Hill, has petitioned this assembly for liberty to make use of their slaves as drivers of the said stages from this state to another state, and from another state to this, without their becoming free by the laws of this state; and the prayer of the said petitioner appearing reasonable, therefore,

II. BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That it shall be lawful for any of the proprietors of the stages aforesaid to make use of their slaves as drivers aforesaid from this state to another state, or from another state to this, without their becoming free, any law of this state to the contrary notwithstanding; provided always, that every driver as aforesaid, being a slave, shall be recorded agreeably to the act of seventeen hundred and ninety-six, entitled, An act relating to negroes, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned; and provided also, that any slave, being once recorded as aforesaid, the master of such slave shall thereafter have a right to employ him as a driver at pleasure. Slaves may be used as drivers, &c.

C H A P. XXX.

An ACT to incorporate the baptist church in the city of Baltimore. Passed Jan. 15.

WHEREAS application hath been made to this general assembly, by the baptist church in the city of Baltimore, now under the pastoral charge of the reverend Lewis Richards, to incorporate a committee of the said church, with powers adequate to the management of their temporal concerns,

II. BE IT ENACTED, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the present committee of the said church, viz. David Shield, George Preftman, Alexander M'Kim, William Wilson and Matthias Maris, and their successors, to be chosen as herein after is mentioned, together with the minister of the said church for the time being, shall be and hereby are created and declared to be Committee, &c. incorporated, &c.