

LAWS OF MARYLAND,
PASSED NOVEMBER SESSION, 1810.

AN ACT
Relating to Servants and Slaves.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That any deed heretofore executed for the manumission of any slave or slaves, who by law might have been set free or manumitted by deed, and which has been acknowledged and recorded in the manner directed by the act, entitled An act relating to negroes, and to repeal the acts of assembly therein mentioned, shall be valid and effectual in law to give freedom to any such slave or slaves, and their issue, although such deed of manumission, or writing as aforesaid, may not have been evidenced by two or more good and sufficient witnesses.

And be it enacted, That a copy of any such deed of manumission or writing as aforesaid, taken from the records of the county, and duly attested under the seal of the court, shall at all times hereafter be deemed, to all intents and purposes, good evidence to prove such deed of manumission; provided always, that nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as to affect or destroy the right of any person, who, before the passage of this act, was a bona fide purchaser of any slave or slaves claiming his, her or their freedom under such deeds of manumission; and provided also, that notwithstanding such deed of manumission, no slave shall be entitled to his or her freedom under the provisions of this act, who has been heretofore adjudged to be a slave by any court of law in this state.

And be it enacted, That no person shall hereafter sell or dispose of any servant or slave, who is or may be entitled to freedom after a term of years, after any particular time, or upon a contingency, to any person who is not a bona fide resident of this state, and who has not resided therein for the space of at least one year next preceding such sale; and if any person holding any such servant or slave shall sell him or her to any person who is not a resident as aforesaid, or who shall sell such servant or slave for a term of years longer than he or she is bound to serve, such person making any of said sales shall forfeit and pay five hundred dollars for any such servant or slave so sold, to be recovered by action of debt in the county court of the county where such seller may reside, one half whereof to the use of the county in which the recovery may be had, and the other to the person who may prosecute for the same.

AN ACT

To confirm an act passed at November session 1809, entitled, An act to alter and abolish all such parts of the constitution and form of government as require a property qualification in persons to be appointed or holding offices of profit or trust in this state, and in persons elected members of the legislature or electors of the senate, therefore.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the said act, entitled, An act to alter and abolish all such parts of the constitution and form of government as require a property qualification in persons to be appointed or holding offices of profit and trust in this state, and in persons elected members of the legislature or electors of the senate, be and it is hereby confirmed and made valid to every intent and purpose therein mentioned.

AN ACT

To confirm an act passed at November session, eighteen hundred and nine, entitled, An act to alter all such parts of the Declaration of Rights, Constitution and Form of Government, as make it lawful to lay an equal and a general tax for the support of the Christian Religion.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That an act passed at November session, eighteen hundred and nine, entitled, An act to alter all such parts of the declaration of rights, constitution and form of government, as make it lawful to lay an equal and a general tax for the support of the Christian religion, shall be and the same is hereby confirmed.

A Further additional supplement to an act, entitled, An act to direct Descents.

WHEREAS, it may often occur, that a person entitled by deed or devise to a life-estate in an undivided part of the real estate of an intestate, and the reversion, after the said life-estate, may also be conveyed or devised, and there is no provision by law authorizing the commissioners to ascertain and lay off the part of the tenant for life: And whereas also it may frequently happen, that a person entitled to an undivided part of the real estate of an intestate may devise the same in fee, and there is no provision by law for dividing the intestate's estate in such case; for remedy thereof,

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That where any person is entitled by deed or devise to a life-estate in an undivided part of the real estate of an intestate, the same proceedings shall be had as are directed with regard to tenancies by the courtesy by an act passed at November session, eighteen hundred and eight, entitled, A further additional supplement to an act, entitled, An act to direct descents; and where any person is entitled by deed or devise to the remainder after such life-estate, the same proceedings shall be had as are directed by law where a person is entitled to an undivided part of an intestate's estate, subject to a tenancy by the courtesy.

And be it enacted, That where a person is entitled to an undivided part of an intestate's real estate by devise in fee, the same proceedings shall be had as are directed with regard to purchasers by an act, entitled, A further additional supplement to the act, entitled, An act to direct descents, passed at November session, eighteen hundred and two.

AN ACT

To confirm an act passed at November session, 1809, entitled, An act to alter such parts of the Constitution and Form of government of this state as relate to voters and qualification of voters.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That an act passed at November session, eighteen hundred and nine, entitled, An act to alter such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as relate to voters and qualification of voters, shall be and the same is hereby confirmed.

A Further supplement to the act, entitled, An act for amending and reducing into system, the Laws & Regulations concerning last Wills and Testaments, the duties of Executors, Administrators and Guardians, and the rights of Orphans and other Representatives of deceased persons.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That no nuncupative will hereafter to be made shall be good, where the estate thereby bequeathed shall exceed the value of three hundred dollars, that is not proved by the oaths of three witnesses at the least who were present at the making thereof, nor unless it be proved that the testator, at the time of pronouncing the same, did bid the persons present, or some of them, to bear witness that such was his will, or to that effect, nor unless such nuncupative will were made in the time of the last sickness of his or her habitation or dwelling, or where he or she hath been resident for the space of ten days or more next before the making of such will, except where such person was surprised or taken sick, being from his own home, and died before he or she returned to the place of his or her dwelling.

And be it enacted, That six months after the speaking of the pretended testamentary words, no testimony shall be received to prove any will nuncupative, except the said testimony, or the substance thereof, were committed to writing within six days after the making of the said will; but any soldier, being in actual military service, or any mariner or seaman, being at sea, may dispose of his moveables, wages and personal estate, as he or they might have done before the passing of this act.

And be it enacted, That no will in writing concerning any goods or chattels, or personal estate, shall be re-

pealed, nor shall any clause, devise or bequest therein, be altered or changed by word of mouth only, except the same be in the life-time of the testator committed to writing, and after the writing thereof read unto the testator, and allowed by him, and proved to be so done by three witnesses at the least.

And be it enacted, That from and after the passage of this act, no devise, legacy or bequest, shall lapse or fail of taking effect by reason of the death of any devisee or legatee named in any last will or testament, or any codicil thereto, in the life-time of the testator, but every such devise, legacy or bequest, shall have the same effect and operation in law to transfer the right estate and interest, in the property mentioned in such devise or bequest, as if such devisee or legatee had survived the testator.

And be it enacted, That it shall be in the power of the general orphans courts in this state, whenever a distribution of specific articles is to be made, to appoint two disinterested persons, not in any way related to the parties concerned, to make such distribution among the persons entitled, as to them shall seem meet and proper; or if, in their opinion upon a view of such specific articles, no distribution among the persons entitled could be by them made, which should operate equally, but that a sale thereof would be more advantageous to the parties concerned, they shall return to the orphans court their opinion, in writing, and the court shall thereupon order a sale of such articles, upon reasonable notice, and cause the proceeds of such sale to be equally distributed among the parties entitled.

And be it enacted, That in all cases where the validity of a will is or shall be contested, letters of administration pending such contest may, at the discretion of the orphans court, be granted to the person named executor, or to the person to whom the largest portion of the personal estate may be bequeathed in such contested will, or to the person who would be entitled to letters of administration by law as in cases of intestacy; provided always that upon a decision had on such contested will, the same proceedings shall be had, and the same rules apply, as to the completion of the administration, according to the circumstances of the case, as are prescribed by the fifth chapter of the act to which this is a supplement.

Anne-Arundel County, &c.

ON application to me, the subscriber, in the records of Anne-Arundel county court, as one of the associate judges of the third judicial district of Maryland, by petition, in writing, of Dennis Iglehart, of Anne-Arundel county, praying for the benefit of the act for the relief of fundry insolvent debtors, and the several supplements thereto, on the terms mentioned in said acts, a schedule of his property, and a list of his creditors, as far as he can ascertain them, being annexed to his petition, and the said Dennis Iglehart having satisfied me by competent testimony that he has resided in the state of Maryland two years immediately preceding the time of his application, and the said Dennis Iglehart, at the time of presenting his petition, having produced to me the assent in writing of so many of his creditors as have due to them the amount of two thirds of the debts due by him, it is thereupon ordered and adjudged, that the said Dennis Iglehart, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in the Maryland Gazette once a week for three months successively, before the fourth Monday of April next, give notice to his creditors to appear before the county court, to be held at the city of Annapolis, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of the said fourth Monday of April next, for the purpose of recommending a trustee for their benefit, & to shew cause, if any they have, why the said Dennis Iglehart should not have the benefit of the said act, and supplements, as prayed.

Given under my hand this ninth day of January, 1811. RICHARD H. BARWOOD.

A Pointer Lost.

STRAYED away on Sunday last, a white pointer, flat, with a round spot on the back near the rump, and answers to the name of Clie, whoever brings her to the city tavern, or to No. 10, South Gay-street, Baltimore, shall be entitled to ten dollars reward.

WM. BREWER.

PHILADELPHIA, JAN. 3.
The whole of the outward bound fleet, mounting about 70 sail, remained at the wharves yesterday morning, wind bound. The Bainbridge, for London, was at anchor.

FURTHER FROM SPAIN.
from Gibraltar papers.

CADIZ, OCT. 21.
We have received the particulars of action, in the fields of Sallagola, between the Marquis de Compoverde and the French whom our brave troops pursued as far as the gates of Mont Louis. We had 8 killed, 56 wounded. The enemy's loss was considerable: the field of battle was strewn with their dead, whose number exceeded 500, and a large number of prisoners, and a large quantity of arms and ammunition and cattle were captured in our hands. The intendant, Campomarin, D. Jole Obispo and Mantu have covered themselves with glory on the 24th of last month, between la Cruz de Fallinas and Coll de Hopsaliet. The gallant Navero has penetrated into Raulillon, laid the country waste and spread terror and desolation through the district.

Alcant letters of the 14th state as follows: "Nothing new has occurred in our army. The enemy's numbers in Baza are between 8 and 900 horse, and 7 to 800 foot, those who marched to Baza for Loja, having been replaced by a regiment of Granada. There they have expelled all the inhabitants to enlist in the Guards, and given orders for a levy, which includes, without exception of persons, rank all individuals from 16 to 50 years of age. The division which was in Almeria, Gen. Carvajal is collecting for the purpose of going thence to Baza."

Brigadier Empeludo beat on the 1st near Fuentes, a French division consisting of between 900 and 1000 foot and 200 horse; and Col. Mina, who being attacked by very superior forces, had withdrawn to the mountains of Arragon, is advancing again into the interior of Navarre. The French have under the necessity of evacuating Sigüenza. Gen. Carvajal has already 9,000 men at Ferrel. On the 7th of Sept. M. Villalba attacked a body of the enemy who escorted a convoy and was proceeding to Villajungo to Alcaniz, when fortune declared so decidedly in his favour, that he lost 28 horse of which that body consisted, it is confidently said, that 150 have reached their destination. On our side we have 4 killed and 19 wounded.

[Cadiz Diary]

Extract from a private letter.

Massena finds himself in great difficulties and danger, within six leagues of Lisbon without communication with Cadiz, surrounded by enemies and starving. Rumour has joined Wellington with 12,000 men and we expect shortly to see the end of this.

Ballesteros is in Arcena and the cavalry Fexenal. Mortier in Seville and his troops in the environs.
* By a Consist of a later date than Cadiz diary, from which the above paragraph is taken, we learn, that after ranging plundering French Cerdagne, the Marquis division re-entered Spain and on the 10th Oct. was stationed in the environs of Cerme, making part of the cordan formed by French bodies of Spanish troops round Madrid, army, which is represented as being in a difficult extending from the last mentioned town to Lerida. The general opinion is that the French general would, before he attempt to break through the cordan, get into Barcelona; and yet it was thought by some, that he would not stir from his position, as he had nothing else in view but to cover the siege of Tortosa, for which object continued to prepare with increased activity.

[Gibraltar Chronicle]

JANUARY 8.

We believe the following abstract of events at Lisbon, which we have collected in conversation with an intelligent gentleman passenger in the Cumberland, is correct.
On the evening of the 16th of Nov. Marshal Massena commenced his retreat from camp, in front of the British line; and pursued, in the same night, by the British troops.

On the morning of the 17th Lord Wellington marched with the whole of the British army, consisting of 80,000 men, and reached Lisbon that he had over the French army, supposed 60,000 men on the 22d, and it was expected a general battle would be fought on the 23d, on which our informant left Lisbon.

Great numbers of the French horse perished, and the remainder were exhausted from the want of provender, while the British cavalry, being amply supplied, were the best order and highest spirits. Massena was retreating towards Coimbra in an opposite direction from Cadiz, rendered his junction with the troops of Soult still less probable.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

ANNAPOLIS, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16, 1811.

Address to the Charitable Society of Annapolis.

OF all the emotions that agitate the human heart, those that flow from sympathy are evidently the most dignified, from sympathy, prompting to the succour of those who are prompt to feel for, the most heart-rending and delightful. Heaven it seems has deigned like these, unalienable to us, to make them the incomparable reward of those in whom it has associated nobility with the disposition to relieve. The respectable society to whom these remarks are addressed, ever be enabled to gratify their finer feelings, and may they long make glad the hearts of the distressed poor. The days of man are "few and far between" at the best, but when poverty's scorpion stings to embitter the hours of life, then it becomes miserable indeed, even in the small city of Annapolis. "Sore pierced by wintry winds, how many shrink into the fond but cheerless poverty. Thought fond man, in this, and all the thousand nameless ills, that one incessant struggle render life a scene of toil, of suffering and of fate, and heedless rambling impulse learn to think the conscious heart of charity would warm, and her wide with benevolence dilate. The social tear would rise, the social light and into clear perfection, gradual bliss, leaving full, the social pious work." The miserable laments of the poor, dispersed with the commodious dwelling, the opulent, present a fair picture of woe within even to the casual observer. We can accompany apertures totally closed or stopped with clay and rags, by a comfortable perfuming scene within? A mother hugging an infant in her arms from the piercing blast of winter, (unaware of the warmth of fire or even a candle,) while elder, yet helpless ones, are biting their fingers, and with icy tears imploring morsel of bread, to bestow which, she (she woe-man) "checks her own appetite. These scenes, it is feared, are not uncommon; to provide for them, a charitable society has been formed in Annapolis, and to humane and laudable an institution, the citizens have already been liberal, and it is hoped and believed they will continue to be so. It is certain that humanity affords great and less extravagant pleasure, to the reflecting mind, than any purchased in the heart's satisfaction.

The plan of this society was judiciously well as benevolently fallen upon by its managers. They were aware that there were many who would cheerfully relieve the distressed, and that there were many poor who could not solicit where a refusal might be given, who could not solicit without invitation. These are the people for whose benefit the society was more particularly intended, and whose deserving, as well as indigent, for people it was thought generous and highly praiseworthy, to resolve charity into a system; by this system collections are made, & faithfully and discreetly distributed by this excellent system all who are disposed to be charitable have opportunity, and the writer believes the world is not so advanced in barbarity, as to find it excused the blith, that he has erred, felt succeeded a solicitation to himself.

Charity is a duty inculcated in the precepts of our divine religion, and its performance consequently more incumbent upon us than any duty which could be proposed, and promised reward of it is far more desirable than any earthly gain or pleasure. "He giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord; him, at whose favour he has the temporary use of every thing he enjoys; and there be a man who would scruple to lend his Great and Benevolent Father, a portion of that superfluous he has received from him; in the world, perhaps, there are soft iron hearts, but to the honour of humanity, it is hoped they are few and it is confidently believed that not an Annapolis will refuse his quota to the poor, due by the Decree.

The objects of this charitable & noble institution are not confined to the simple circumstance of giving momentary relief, they extend to procuring employment for the grown, the means of useful education for the industrious on the stalk of barren and, (until foundation of this necessary and amiable) uncultivated poverty. The precise and managers of this benevolent institution contemplate, in the rules of their association with the assistance of the charitable, to employment to those of the poor who are able to work, by the purchase of raw materials, to be worked up; and when the beneficence of the wealthy enable them to contribute to this well-devised scheme into execution, they succeed, and they contemplate a still more fruitful plan, and which will have its fruit at a future day, to establish a school, to teach the young the ways of honest livelihood. These schemes