

C. H. A. P. XXXII. And lease lots, &c.

VIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners be empowered to lease for a term of years, or sell in fee-simple, the said forfeited lots, without any condition of the purchaser building or erecting tenements on the same.

When fairs are to be held, &c.

IX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the fair which is by law held on the third, fourth, and fifth days of May annually, shall hereafter be annually held on the third Thursday in May, and the two following days, annually; and all the privileges granted by the former law shall be extended to this period.

Annual meetings, &c.

X. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the annual meetings of the commissioners for perpetuating the bounds, and other business heretofore held on the tenth day of May, shall be for the future held on the first Monday in June, and adjourned from day to day as the said commissioners shall deem necessary.

C. H. A. P. XXXIII.

Passed 20th of Jan. 1787.

An ACT for marking and bounding lands. Lib. TBH. No. B. fol. 131.

Supplements November, 1787, ch. 22, 1793, ch. 70.

Preamble

WHEREAS many differences and lawsuits have arisen and may arise, concerning the location of lands held under courses and distances only, contained in title papers thereof, the direction of the courses varying in most instances, in a length of time, from the former running, from whence the descriptions of such lands were made in the certificates, grants and deeds thereof, and the marking and bounding lands in such manner, that their location would remain fixed and certain, would prevent differences and lawsuits, quiet possessions, and of course render lands more valuable;

Persons may apply for a commission, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That any person seized of land held under courses and distances only, as to any of the lines thereof, whether courses and distances only are mentioned in the grant or deed under which such land is held, or by the loss of boundaries called for, the person seized is confined to course and distance, or seized of the reversion or remainder on an estate for life or lives therein, having given two months notice by advertisement set up at the court-house door of the county, and by such advertisement set up at the doors of the churches, and other houses for public worship, if any, in the hundred where such land lies, of his intention to apply to the court for a commission to mark and bound his land, named, or otherwise described, in such advertisement; and also giving notice in writing to the persons holding the adjoining lands, if residing thereon, or if absent, leaving such notice at the houses of such persons, thirty days before the meeting of the county court of the county where such land lies, and if no person lives on the adjoining land, giving notice four successive weeks in the Baltimore and Annapolis newspapers; and also giving personal notice to the owner of the adjoining land, or to his agent or attorney, if known and in the state, thirty days before the meeting of the county court, as aforesaid, may apply, by petition in writing, to such court for a commission to mark and bound such land agreeable to the directions of this act; and upon proof being made to the satisfaction of the court, that such advertisements were duly set up, and notice given as aforesaid, or upon the other persons interested appearing, the court may issue a commission to any five or three persons, agreed on by all parties, empowering them, or a majority of them, to mark and bound the land mentioned in such commission, according to the directions of this act; but if the persons interested, or any of them, shall not agree on the persons for commissioners, then shall the court appoint three or five discreet persons, skilled in land affairs, not interested in the lands, nor related to either of the parties, to whom a commission shall issue in manner aforesaid.

By November, 1787, ch. 22, a commission may issue on application, &c. to mark and bound lands held by bodies politic and corporate.

Commissioners to advertise, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall cause advertisements to be set up at the door of the court-house of their county, and such other public places as they may judge most effectual, notifying the time of their meeting, thirty days at the least before their meeting, and shall meet on the land, to proceed in the execution of their commission, agreeable to the notice given by them as aforesaid; but before any commissioner shall proceed in the execution of any such commission, otherwise than by giving notice as aforesaid, and issuing summonses for witnesses, he shall take an oath or affirmation before some justice of the peace, or some other of the commissioners, that he will settle and adjust the location of the land mentioned in such commission, most agreeably to the true original location thereof, according to the evidence and circumstances which shall be offered or appear to him, without favour, affection or partiality, according to the best of his experience and judgment, and will make a true return thereof.

IV. AND