

C H A P. CVIII. such debtor is an object of the bankrupt law of the United States, and is liable to be made a bankrupt under said law, the said chancellor may thereupon, at the election of the creditor making such allegation, either examine the said debtor on oath or affirmation, on interrogatories, touching the said allegations, and may compel the said debtor to produce his books of accounts, or direct an issue or issues in a summary way, without the form of an action, to determine the truth of the same; and if upon the answer of the said interrogatories, and production of said books of accounts on the trial of the said issue or issues, any such debtor shall be found to be an object of the bankrupt law of the United States, and as such liable to be proceeded against, and to be made a bankrupt, he shall be precluded from any benefit of this act.

J. Boone, &c. to be entitled, &c. . XVIII. AND BE IT ENACTED, That Joseph Boone and Thomas Boone, of Prince-George's county, Jacob Hull, of Frederick county, Wilder Bevans, of Cæcil county, and James Ray, of the city of Annapolis, shall be entitled to receive the full relief and benefit by this act granted to the petitioners herein before mentioned, on their complying with all the rules and conditions of such petitioners required, except that the said Joseph Boone and Thomas Boone, and James Ray, shall not be required to produce to the chancellor any evidence of their having resided for the two preceding years within the state of Maryland, prior to the passage of this act.

Time limited. XIX. AND BE IT ENACTED, That none of the said debtors who do not make application as aforesaid on or before the first day of June next, shall have any benefit of this act.

C H A P. CIX.

An ACT respecting free negroes.

Passed 31st of Dec 1801.
Slaves may give evidence, &c.

BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That slaves shall in all cases in which a free negro or mulatto, or other person of colour, free or freed, charged with stealing goods, or with the receipt of stolen goods, shall be admitted to give evidence for or against the person accused.

C H A P. CX.

An ACT for the relief of the heirs and representatives of Francis Mary Delalandelle.

Passed 31st of Dec 1801.

Enacted.

WHEREAS Francis Mary Delalandelle, an officer in the French army employed in America during our late revolution, in consequence of the disturbances in France, came to, and settled in, this state, where he purchased real property after being duly naturalized: And whereas his only child, an infant, with her mother, also came to, and settled within this state, but who have since returned to France without having been naturalized, and the said Francis Mary Delalandelle having since died intestate, by which the property he purchased became subject to escheat, and a certain Charles De Moelier, for the use and benefit of the child and widow aforesaid, having obtained an escheat warrant thereon; and the said widow and child aforesaid having petitioned this general assembly to release the state's interest in the property aforesaid, and to vest the same in an agent for their benefit; and the prayer thereof being reasonable, therefore,

Right vested, &c.

II. BE IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That all the right, title, interest, claim and demand whatever, of this state, of, in and to, any lands, tenements or hereditaments, of which the said Francis Mary Delalandelle died seized, or to which he was any way entitled, he and the same is hereby vested in Samuel Ridout, of the city of Annapolis, in fee simple, in trust for the said widow and child.

S. Ridout to sell, &c.

III. AND BE IT ENACTED, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Samuel Ridout to sell and dispose of the same, or any part thereof, on such terms and conditions as he may think proper; provided always, that in case the said Samuel Ridout shall not, before the first day of August next, execute a bond to the state of Maryland, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the trust in him reposed by this act, and for the payment of the monies he may receive in virtue of the sales of the property aforesaid to the said widow and child, and the survivor of them, then and in that case all the estate, right and title, vested or intended to be vested in him, shall cease and be void.