

1812.

is a further supplement, and the supplementary acts thereto, have been found by experience to be inconvenient and oppressive to persons in this State owning slaves that reside near the lines of other States :
Therefore,

SEC. 1. BE IT ENACTED *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That it shall and may be lawful for any citizen of this State, to hire, remove or work any of his or her slaves, in any adjoining county of any other State, and to bring them into this State again, as often as the owner or proprietor may think proper, where the laws of the State into which said slaves may be carried, do not prohibit the same, without being obliged to deliver a list of them to be recorded in the clerk's office of the county as heretofore required, and to retain and enjoy them as slaves: *Provided*, The said slave or slaves shall not be kept out of this State longer than twelve months at any one time.

Slaves may be hired out in an adjoining county of another state.

Proviso.

2. AND BE IT ENACTED, That it shall and may be lawful for any citizen of any other State, owning slaves in any county adjoining this State, to hire or work any of his or her slaves in this State, as often as the owner or proprietor may think proper, without being obliged to deliver a list of them to be recorded in the clerk's office as heretofore required, and to hold and enjoy them as slaves: *Provided*, The said slave or slaves shall not be kept in this State longer than twelve months at any one time.

Slaves in an adjoining state may be hired in this state.

Proviso.

3. AND BE IT ENACTED, That no negro or slave, that hath been or shall be hired, removed, or worked out of this State, in any adjoining county of any other State, shall be entitled to freedom on account of such removal: *Provided*, They have not been or shall not be kept out of this State more than twelve months at any one time as aforesaid, any thing in the act to which this is a supplement and the supplementary acts thereto, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Slaves so hired shall not be entitled to freedom in consequence thereof
Proviso.

4. AND BE IT ENACTED, That nothing herein contained shall be construed or taken to affect the right of any negro or slave, who hath petitioned for his or her freedom, previous to the passage of this act.

Slaves petitioning for freedom.

5. AND BE IT ENACTED, That so much of the act to which this is a supplement and the supplementary acts thereto, which is inconsistent with the provisions of this act, shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

Acts inconsistent with this repealed.