

2. AND whereas, sundry citizens of this state may hold lands in virtue of patents granted by the commonwealth of Virginia, before the divisional line shall have been settled and adjusted between the two states, and as it is proper that all inhabitants on either side of the boundary line, so to be settled and adjusted, who shall have obtained patents for their lands in Virginia or Maryland, should have their titles confirmed in which ever state they may happen to fall, *Be it enacted*, That any person or persons holding lands within the limits of this state, which shall have been granted and patented by Virginia before the settlement and adjustment of the said divisional line, and which, before the running and settling the divisional line aforesaid, shall have been considered as lying within the limits of Virginia, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, but which by the settlement and adjustment of the said divisional line shall be found to lie within this state, shall be at liberty to take out and receive patents from the land office of this state; and after the confirmation of the settlement and adjustment of the said divisional lines as aforesaid, the register of the land office of the western shore is hereby empowered and directed, on application of any of the above described land-holders, and upon their producing their Virginia patents, or authenticated copies, which shall be lodged in the land office, to grant patent or patents for the lands expressed in such original grant or grants, and the person or persons thus receiving patents in exchange shall not be liable to pay any purchase or caution money, or be liable to any charge or demand whatsoever, except the common fees of office.

Persons holding lands within limits of this state, which have been patented in Virginia, &c. to take out patents from land office of this state.

3. *Provided nevertheless, and be it enacted*, That the right, title and estate, acquired by any person or persons of in and to any such lands, under and in virtue of any kind of grant from the proprietary of Maryland, or from this state, prior to the right, title or estate acquired by any person or persons claiming under a grant from Virginia, shall prevail; and in all and every case the prior title acquired by any person or persons in and to any such lands, under any grant or patent, whether granted by Virginia, or Maryland, or by or under either of them, shall prevail and have the preference.

Provided

4. *And be it enacted*, That no such grant as aforesaid shall extend, or be deemed, construed or taken to extend, to the right of any grantee or grantees, and those claiming under them, to any lands, tenements, hereditaments, which are situate, lying or being within this state, which have been at any time and in any manner heretofore granted by or under the authority of the late proprietaries, or by this state, and are now in the actual possession or occupation of all, every or any of the tenants or occupiers of the said lands, hereditaments and premises, nor to the estate, right, title or interest, of such tenants or occupiers, or any of them, in or to the said lands and premises, or any part thereof, but it shall and may be lawful to and for all and every of such tenants and occupiers of the said lands and premises, and every part thereof, their and every of their heirs and assigns, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, to hold and enjoy the said lands and premises, and every part thereof, for and during all and every their several and respective estates and interests in the same and every of them, any thing herein before contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

No such grant to extend to right of any grantee, &c. situate within this state, &c.