

CHAP. CLX.

An Act to confirm and make valid the Acts and Proceedings of Jesse Bodle, as a Justice of the Peace for Kent County.

CHAP. 160.

Passed Feb 12 1821

Preamble

WHEREAS Jesse Bodle, of Kent county, was duly commissioned a justice of the peace in and for Kent county for the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty: And whereas it is stated that the said Jesse Bodle qualified a justice of the peace aforesaid, before Philip F. Rasin, Esquire, and that the said Philip F. Rasin neglected to certify to the clerk of Kent county court that the said Jesse Bodle had so qualified as a justice of the peace, which statement appears to be true: And whereas great inconveniencies will be imposed on sundry persons, unless the said acts which have been done by the said Jesse Bodle as a justice of the peace for Kent county, during the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty, are confirmed and made valid; Therefore.

1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That all acts and proceedings which have been done and made by the said Jesse Bodle, during the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, as a justice of the peace for Kent county, shall be as valid, and shall have the same effect and operation in law, as if the said Jesse Bodle had been duly qualified as a justice of the peace of the state of Maryland in and for Kent county, according to the law of the state of Maryland.

CHAP. CLXI.

An Act for the better regulation of Chancery Proceedings in certain cases.

Passed Feb 12 1821

1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That wherever a subpoena hath issued or shall hereafter issue from the chancery court, or from any county court exercising chancery jurisdiction, on a bill filed or to be filed in any of the said courts respectively, and such subpoena hath been or shall hereafter be duly returned summoned, as to all or any of the defendants therein named, and the defendant or defendants, or any of them so returned summoned, shall fail to appear in person or by solicitor, according to the exigency of the said writ, or having so appeared shall fail to put in a good and sufficient answer on oath to the said bill, within the time or times which are or may be prescribed by the rules of the court from which the said writ issued for answering to such bill, the said court shall be and hereby is authorised and required, on the application of the complainant or complainants, or any of them, in person or by solicitor, to enter an interlocutory decree in such cause, and to issue a commission or commissions, as the case may be, *ex parte*, to one or more persons, for the taking of testimony to support the allegations of the said bill, which commissions shall be issued, proceeded in and returned in the same manner, and the testimony taken and returned under them shall have the same effect, as if issued and returned in the usual way, on answer, general replication and issue, and the court shall proceed to a final decree in the cause, in the same manner as if the defendant or defendants had appeared and put in their answer.

Where a subpoena has issued on a bill filed, &c and returned summoned court authorised to enter interlocutory decree, &c

2. *And be it enacted,* That whenever any such bill as is mentioned in the preceding section, shall charge any matter or thing as being within the private knowledge of the defendant or defen-

When such bill shall charge any matter as being within the private knowledge of the defendant, &c to be taken pro confesso, &c