

their next regular meeting, then the same shall commence and be in full force. Dec. Ses 1824

CHAPTER 78.

An act for the relief of negro Sophia and her two children, James and Rachel Ann.

Passed Jan. 31, 1824.  
Preamble.

Whereas, negro Sophia of the city of Baltimore, by her petition to this General Assembly, hath set forth that she was the slave of a certain Billy Drue Buntin, late of Baltimore county deceased; and that the said Billy Drue Buntin, on the tenth day of September, eighteen hundred and ten, executed a deed of manumission, by which the said negro Sophia was declared to be free, and discharged from all manner of servitude or service to the said Billy Drue Buntin, her executors, administrators and assigns, from and after the expiration of seven years, from the date of the said deed; but that through the neglect or omission of the said Billy Drue Buntin, the said deed of manumission was not recorded, and remained unrecorded at the time of her death; and the said negro Sophia hath prayed that a law may pass to authorize and direct the recording of the said deed of manumission; and whereas, the prayer of the said petitioner appears to be just and reasonable; Therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the clerk of Baltimore county court, be, and he is hereby authorized and required, upon application being made to him for that purpose, to record the said deed of manumission, and the said deed of manumission when so recorded, shall have the same effect and operation as if it had been recorded within the time limited by law for the recording of the same; *provided nevertheless*, that the rights of any purchaser acquired, before the passing of this act, shall not be thereby affected.

Recorded ordered.

Proviso.

CHAPTER 79.

An act to confirm an act of the General Assembly of Virginia, entitled, "An act Incorporating the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company."

Passed Jan. 31, 1825.  
Preamble.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of Virginia have heretofore, at the December session of the said General Assembly, in the year eighteen hundred and twenty three, passed an act entitled, An act incorporating the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, in the substance or words following:

"Whereas a navigable canal from the tide water of the river Potomac, in the District of Columbia, to the mouth of Savage creek on the north branch of the said river, and extending thence across the Allegany mountain, to some convenient point on the navigable waters of the river Ohio, or some one of its tributary streams, to be fed through its course on the east side of the mountain by the river Potomac, and the streams which empty therein, and on the western side of the mountain, and in passing over the same, by all such streams of water, as may be beneficially drawn thereto by feeders, dams, or any other practicable mode, will be a work of great profit and advantage to the people of this state and of the neighboring states, and may ultimately tend to establish a connected navigation between the eastern and western waters, so as to extend and multiply the means and facilities of internal commerce and

Virginia preamble.