

SEC. 2. *Be it enacted, by the right honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the advice and consent of his said lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of this present General Assembly, and the authority of the same,* That if any person or persons, from and after the publication hereof, shall desire to set up such forging-mill, and other conveniencies for the carrying on such iron-works, upon any land not before cultivated, next adjoining to any run of water within this province, not being the estate of inheritance of such undertakers, nor leased to them, to the intent thereon to set such forging-mill, and other conveniencies for the carrying on such iron-works, they may purchase a writ out of chancery, directed to the sheriff of the county where such land lieth, requiring him, by the oath of twelve men of his county, to inquire what damage it would be to his lordship, or others, to have such builders or undertakers invested with an absolute estate of inheritance in one hundred acres of such land, proper for the setting up such forging-mill, and other conveniencies for the carrying on such iron-works as aforesaid; the form of which writ followeth, viz: 'CHARLES, absolute lord and proprietary of the provinces of Maryland and Avalon, lord baron of Baltimore, &c. To the sheriff of — county, Greeting. We command you, that by the oath of twelve honest and lawful men of the county, by whom the truth of the matter may be better known, you diligently inquire if it be to the damage of us, or others, if we grant unto N. N. of N. county, one hundred acres of land, lying at —, in the county aforesaid, as may be most convenient for the building and setting up a forge mill, and other conveniencies, as shall be necessary for the carrying on an iron-work; and if it be to the damage and prejudice of us, or others, then to what damage and prejudice of us, and to what damage and prejudice of others, and of whom, and in what manner, and how, and of what value the same land is now, before any other improvement of the said one hundred acres of land, and who are the present possessors of the said one hundred acres of land, and who have the fee-simple thereof, and what lands and tenements remain to the present possessor, over and above the said one hundred acres of land, and if the said land remaining to the present possessors, over and above the said one hundred acres, will suffice to uphold their manor, viz: the sixth part of their manor, allotted them by the conditions of plantations, for the demesne, as before the alienation, so as the county, by the alienation aforesaid, in default of the present possession, more than was wont not to be charged and grieved; and the inquisition thereupon openly and distinctly made to us in our high court of chancery, under the seal and the seals of them by whom it was made, without delay send, &c.' Upon return of

Writs of *ad quod damnum* may be taken out, &c.