

not heirs generally. Of course under the Acts of 1825, ch. 156, and 1868, ch. 199, the ruling of this latter point would now be otherwise.⁹

⁹ The point arose in *Estep v. Mackey*, 52 Md. 592, and it was held that the Act of 1825, ch. 156, having changed the status of illegitimate children as to inheritable blood, the words "dying without heirs" could no longer be restricted in their case to dying without heirs of the body, but must be construed when used respecting them precisely as if used with reference to persons born in wedlock.

THE STATUTE

36

DE ANNO BISSEXTILI,

Made at WESTMINSTER, Anno 21 HEN. III. and Anno Dom. 1236.

The Day of the Leap-Year, and the Day before, shall be holden for one Day.

The King unto his Justices of the Bench, greeting. Know ye, that where within our Realm of *England*, it was doubted of the Year and Day that were wont to be assigned unto sick Persons being impleaded, when and from what Day of the Year going before unto another Day of the Year following, the Year and Day in a Leap-Year ought to be taken and reckoned how long it was:

II. We therefore, willing that a conformity be observed in this behalf every where within our Realm, and to avoid all Danger from such as be in Plea, have provided, and by the Counsel of our faithful Subjects, have or-

Rex justiciariis suis de banco, salutem. Sciatis quod cum in regno nostro Anglie de anno & die, qui languidis *per breve nostrum* implacitatis prefigi consueverunt, quando & *quomodo, scilicet*, a quo die anni precedentis in alium diem anni subsequenter, debuit annus ille & dies in anno bissextili accipi & computari, diu extiterit dubitatum;

II. Nos volentes conformitatem (*uniformitatem*) ubique in regno nostro super hoc observari, & periculis litigancium precaveri, providimus, & de consilio fidelium nostrorum statuimus, quod ad delendum de cetero communem super hoc ambiguitatem, computetur dies excrescens in anno bissex-