

CHAPTER 437.

AN ACT to authorize the citizens of Talbot and Dorchester counties to take or catch oysters, with dredge, scoop, or scrape, in the waters of the Choptank River.

Issue license SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Talbot or Dorchester county shall, upon the application of any person who has been a resident of such county for twelve months, next preceding such application, and to no other person, issue a license to such resident to employ any boat, of a capacity of ten tons or under, such capacity to be ascertained by custom-house measurement, in taking or catching oysters with dredge, scoop or scrape, in the waters of the Choptank River in said counties, between the fifteenth day of September in each year and the first day of May next following; provided, that nothing in this act shall authorize the taking of oysters with dredge, scoop or scrape in said river above a line drawn from Clara's Point in Talbot county to upper end of Castle Haven Point in Dorchester county, or in any tributaries of said river; and provided further, that

Proviso the applicant shall pay to said clerk, before the issuing of said license, the sum of three dollars per ton, according to the capacity of the vessel to be licensed, which said license shall be good for twelve months from the day of its issue; and until such license is obtained, it shall be unlawful to use or employ any vessel in taking or catching oysters as here-

Proviso inbefore described; provided, that the waters of Talbot, lying between Black Walnut Point and Wade's Point, shall be opened to the citizens of Talbot county licensed under this act, but it shall be unlawful to take oysters with scoop or dredge in any other waters of Talbot county.

Make oath. SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That the owner of such boat shall make oath before the said clerk that he is the *bona fide* owner of such boat, which boat shall be described in the license, that he has been a resident of the county in which his application is made for twelve months, that there is no lien on said boat held by a non-resident, and that such boat is not