

C H A P. XXX.

An ACT to authorise the probate of wills in the county where the witnesses reside.

WHEREAS it has already, and may hereafter frequently happen, that testators may make their last will in counties remote from the county where their real estate may lie, and it is very inconvenient for the witnesses to such will to prove the same, as now required by law :

Preamble.

II. *Be it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland,* That any last will and testament made, or hereafter to be made, may be proved in the orphans court of the county, or before the register of such court, where the witnesses, or the greater part of them, may live ; and letters testamentary may be granted, and administration of the estate of such testator made and completed in such county ; and if any personal property lies in any other county, warrant may issue to inhabitants of such county to appraise the personal property in such county.

Wills may be proved where witnesses reside, &c.

III. *And,* whereas it may be proper in some cases to prove the will in the county where the witnesses reside, and to obtain letters testamentary in the county where the personal property of the testator lies, *Be it enacted,* That if the executor shall prove any will agreeable to the liberty given by this act, and desire to obtain letters testamentary in any other county, that in such case he shall procure an attested copy under the seal of the orphans court, of the will and probate, and on producing the same to the orphans court (or register) of any other county, the same shall be recorded there, and he may obtain letters testamentary thereon, in the same manner as if the original will had been proved in such county.

Executors to procure a copy, &c.

C H A P. XXXI.

An ACT to naturalize Thomas Walley, son of Zedekiah Walley, and to make provision for the maintenance and education of the said Thomas Walley, and Maria Grafon, daughter of Thomas Grafon. *PR.*

C H A P. XXXII.

An ACT empowering the guardian mentioned in the paper purporting to be the last will and testament of John Cornthwaite, or any other guardian who may hereafter be appointed to John and Robert Cornthwaite, the infant sons of the said John Cornthwaite, to support, maintain and educate, the said infants, out of the profits of the said John Cornthwaite's estate, until they arrive to the age of twenty-one years respectively. *PR.*

C H A P. XXXIII.

An ACT respecting finance.

This act required the intendant to lay full and exact accounts, statements and estimates, before the general assembly, at each annual session ; and to publish a number of printed copies thereof, for the information of the people.

C H A P. XXXIV.

An ACT respecting literary property.

WHEREAS printers, booksellers, and other persons, may take the liberty of printing, reprinting and publishing, or causing to be printed, reprinted and published, books and other writings, without the consent of the authors or proprietors of such books and writings, to their great injury : For preventing therefore such practices, and for the encouragement of learned men,

Preamble.

II. *Be it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland,* That the author of any book or books, writing or writings, already composed and not printed and published, or that shall be hereafter composed, and his executors, administrators or assigns, shall have the sole liberty of printing and reprinting such book or books, writing or writings, for the term of fourteen years, to commence from the day of the first publishing the same ; and that if any other person whatsoever, within the time granted and limited by this act as aforesaid, shall print, reprint,

Property confirmed to authors, &c.