

WHENEVER any petition or petitions shall be presented to the general assembly by any person or persons to confirm his, her or their title to any land within this state, or for any other purpose whatever, the right or claim of such person or persons, his, her or their representatives, to any matter or thing contained therein, shall not be invalidated by any means whatever until the end of the session of assembly to which the same shall be preferred; but nothing in this act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to prevent or delay any suit or suits, execution or executions, against the property of such petitioner or petitioners.—1794, c. 45, § 2.

P I L O T S.

1. **A** Board of examiners appointed, to examine any person who shall desire to be admitted a pilot, and if upon public examination the person shall appear of ability, &c. they shall grant him one of 3 kinds of warrants of appointment and licence, according to the qualification of such person, thereby authorising him, for one year from the date thereof, either to pilot vessels of any draught of water, or vessels of not exceeding 12 feet draught, or 9 feet draught; but no person shall be entitled to receive a warrant as a first rate pilot, unless he hath employed himself for at least 3 years to the business of piloting vessels of any draught, or served at least 4 years as an apprentice; and every pilot shall renew his warrant of licence every year in the month of Feb. and every first rate pilot shall pay 15s. and every second rate pilot 10s. and every third rate pilot 5s. to the register of the board for every renewal, and the board may renew any licence or not, as they may think proper.—Nov. 1787, c. 26, § 2,

2. Every member of the said board, before he proceeds to examine any person applying for a warrant as a pilot, shall take the following oath or affirmation, (to be administered by any justice of the peace) to wit:—“I, A. B. do swear (or solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm), that I will impartially examine and inquire into the capacity, skill and experience, of C. D. in the art of piloting in Chesapeake bay and the rivers thereof, and will admit him as I find him qualified, or reject him if I find him unqualified, without favour affection or reward.”—*ibid.* § 3.

3. The said board may make a common seal, and alter and renew the same at their pleasure, and may appoint a register, who shall enter in a book to be provided for that purpose, all applications to, and all other proceedings of the board, and shall countersign all warrants for pilots granted by the board; and every such warrant shall be under seal.—*ibid.* § 4.

4. No