Section 4. Be it enacted and ordained, that before such wills shall take effect, they shall be proved, by the testimony of one or both of the subscribing witnesses, to have been executed by the Testator, when he was of sound mind & understanding, before the register (hereinafter mentioned) of the district of the said territory, in which the testator resided, and deposited, with the register's certificate that it has been proved, endorsed thereon, for record among the records of his office.

Probate of Wills and record thereof.

Section 5. Be it enacted and ordained, that before such conveyances shall take effect, according to their tenor, they shall be acknowledged before a Justice of the Peace, (hereinafter mentioned) of the said Territory, and deposited for record, with the register of the district of the territory, in which the land lies, which is intended to be conveyed: it being the duty of the Register to note, on the back of said conveyance, the time of its being deposited for record. All deeds of real Estate by way of pledge, shall be executed, acknowledged and deposited for record, as above, before they shall have any effect.

Record of Deeds

Section 6. Be it enacted and ordained, that personal property shall pass by delivery, except where the sale or conveyance thereof is by way of pledge, or where the person conveying the same retains possession thereof - in which case, the conveyance shall be in writing, and acknowledged,

Personal Est.

and shall take effect when deposited for record, as in the case of real property.

Section 7. Be it enacted and ordained, that a wife shall be entitled to dower in all real Estate, of which her husband may, at any time, be possessed, during their marriage, in case of her surviving him; and no deed, executed by him, shall have effect to deprive her of such dower, unless she signs the same, and acknowledges, out of the presence of her husband, before the person taking his acknowledgement, that she voluntarily executes it. Sales and conveyances of personal Estate may be made, at any time, without the consent of the wife by the husband alone.

Dower and how relinquish'd

Section 8. Be it enacted and ordained. That in case any person, possessed of property, real or personal, in the said territory, shall die intestate (without having made a will) or without, in his or her will, having appointed an administrator, - untill further enactment and ordinance upon the subject, an administrator and two appraisers shall be appointed, in writing, by the Agent, which administrator shall give bond, - with security to be approved by the agent, for the faithful discharge of his office of administrator, - to be deposited, with and preserved by the Register: but no administrator, shall take possession of the property of the deceased person, before an

Agent to appt Adm,r,s and Appraisers.

Adm,r,r to give Bond.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

I. Minutes
A. Records of the Meetings of the Board of Managers

2. March 1832—December 1834

1833