

7. The singular always includes the plural, and *vice versa*, except where such construction would be unreasonable.

8. The word negro always includes mulatto.

9. Wherever an oath is required by this code an affirmation shall be sufficient, if made by a person conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath.

10. The boundaries and limits of each of the counties of this State and of the city of Baltimore shall remain as now established.

11. Where the general public law and the local public law of any county, city, town or district are in conflict, the public local law shall prevail.

12. The word county shall be construed to include the city of Baltimore, unless such construction would be unreasonable.

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## ARTICLE II.

### Abatement.

SEC. 1. No action of ejectment, waste, partition, dower, replevin, or any personal action, including appeals from judgments rendered by justices of the peace, in any court of law in this State, shall abate by the death of either or any of the parties to such action, but upon the death of any defendant the action shall be continued, and the heir or executor of the defendant, or other person interested on the part of the defendant, may appear to such action, and in case the proper person to defend doth not appear at the court at which the death is suggested, the plaintiff may issue a summons, returnable to the next court, directed to the proper person to defend such action, and upon such summons being served the person summoned shall appear; this not to apply to actions for slander or for injuries to the person.

2. If such person shall fail to appear upon being summoned as aforesaid, the court shall issue an attachment of contempt