

1, 2. **T**HE governor and council, on application, may inquire into the circumstances of the widows of officers who have died in the service, and shall allow them a sum of money, to be paid quarterly, not exceeding half the pay their deceased husbands were entitled quarterly to have received while in service, and shall draw on the treasurer of the western shore for the same which shall be paid by him out of any public money not appropriated; but such allowance shall cease upon the future marriage of such widow, unless there shall be any child or children living of her former husband, in which case the governor and council shall draw an order in favour of such child or children, and authorise a fit person to receive the same in trust, and for their use, benefit and maintenance, until of age.—1785, c. 52, § 2.

3. Nothing in this act shall be taken to extend the payment of the half-pay aforesaid to the widows and children of such officers who have died in the service of the United States, and have already, under particular laws, received provisions adequate to the same, and if not adequate the deficiency shall be paid to the widows and children as aforesaid, and charged to the United States.—*ibid.* § 3.

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W I T N E S S E S.

1. **N**O person convicted or attainted of perjury, or subornation of perjury, shall be received as a witness in any court of record, till such judgment be reversed; in which case such person may recover damages. 1692, c. 16, § 3.

3, 4, 5. Every person summoned as a witness to the county court, and making default, shall be fined by the court 500lb. tobacco, for support of government; and also be liable to an action upon the case for all damages sustained for want of their testimony, and be held to special bail. And also, on request of the party in whose behalf summoned, shall be liable to have their bodies attached, to oblige their attendance; and any witness summoned, or attached, who shall (being present) refuse or delay to give evidence, shall be committed to jail, there to remain until he shall willingly do the same. 1715, c. 37, § 5.

6, 7. Where any witness in a criminal cause cannot find security for his appearance to testify against the criminal, and for want of such security, shall be committed to prison; the county where the prosecution is carried on shall pay such person's imprisonment fees. And if the prosecution be in a superior court, the public shall pay such fees; and the justices shall assess and levy all such fees on the inhabitants of their several counties, and be payable as other county or public charges are allowed to be paid. 1752, c. 13, § 2, 3.