

molested in his person or estate on account of his religious persuasion or profession, or for his religious practice, unless, under the color of religion, he shall disturb the good order, peace or safety of the State, or shall infringe the laws of morality, or injure others in their natural, civil or religious rights; nor ought any person be compelled to frequent, or maintain, or contribute, unless on contract, to maintain any place of worship or any ministry; nor shall any person, otherwise competent, be deemed incompetent as a witness, or juror, on account of his religious belief; provided, he believes in the existence of God, and that under his dispensation such person will be held morally accountable for his acts, and be rewarded or punished therefor in this world or the world to come.

ART. 37. That no religious test ought ever to be required as a qualification for any office of profit or trust in this State, other than a declaration of belief in the existence of God; nor shall the Legislature prescribe any oath of office than the oath prescribed by this Constitution.

ART. 38. That every gift, sale or devise of land to any Minister, Public Teacher or Preacher of the Gospel, as such, or any Religious Sect, Order or Denomination, and every gift or sale of goods, or chattels, to go in succession, or to take place after the death of the Seller or Donor, to or for the support, use or benefit; and also every devise of goods or chattels to or for the support, use or benefit of any Minister, Public Teacher or Preacher of the Gospel, as such, or any Religious Sect, Order or Denomination, without the prior or subsequent sanction of the Legislature, shall be void; except always, any sale, gift lease or devise of any quantity of land, not exceeding five acres, for a church, meeting house, or other house of worship, or parsonage; or for a burying ground, which shall be improved, enjoyed, or used only for such purpose; or such sale, gift, lease or devise shall be void.

ART. 39. That the manner of administering the oath or affirmation to any person, ought to be such as those of the religious persuasion, profession or denomination of which he is a member, generally esteem the most effectual confirmation by the attestation of the Divine being.

ART. 40. That the liberty of the press ought to be inviolably preserved; that every citizen of the State ought to