

SEC. 53. No person shall be incompetent, as a witness, on ^{witnesses.} account of race or color, unless hereafter so declared by Act of the General Assembly.

SEC. 54. No county of this State shall contract any debt, ^{Counties} or obligation, in the construction of any railroad, canal, or ^{forbidden} other work of internal improvement, nor give, or loan its ^{to contract} credit to or in aid of any association, or corporation, unless ^{debts with-} authorized by an Act of the General Assembly, which shall be ^{out au-} published for two months before the next election for mem- ^{thority.} bers of the House of Delegates in the newspapers published in such county, and shall also be approved by a majority of all the members elected to each House of the General Assembly, at its next session after said election.

Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad Company vs. Pumphrey, 74 Md., 86. Baltimore & Eastern Shore R. Co. vs. Spring, 80 Md., 510.

SEC. 55. The General Assembly shall pass no law suspend- ^{Habeas cor-} ing the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*. ^{pus.}

SEC. 56. The General Assembly shall have power to pass ^{Powers of As-} all such laws as may be necessary and proper for carrying ^{sembly.} into execution the powers vested by this Constitution, in any department or office of the Government, and the duties imposed upon them thereby.

SEC. 57. The legal rate of interest shall be *six per cent per* ^{Interest.} *annum*, unless otherwise provided by the General Assembly.

Bandel vs. Isaac, 13 Md., 202. Birmingham vs. Md. Land and Perm. Homestead Association of Balto. Co., 45 Md., 541. Citizens' Land Co. vs. Uhler, 48 Md., 455.

SEC. 58. The Legislature, at its first session after the rati- ^{Foreign cor-} fication of this Constitution, shall provide by law for State ^{porations.} and municipal taxation upon the revenues accruing from business done in the State by all foreign corporations.

SEC. 59. The office of "State Pension Commissioner" is ^{Pension} hereby abolished; and the Legislature shall pass no law cre- ^{system} ating such office, or establishing any general pension system ^{abolished.} within this State.

*SEC. 60. The General Assembly of Maryland shall have the power to provide by suitable general enactment (a) for the suspension of sentence by the Court in criminal cases; (b) for any form of the indeterminate sentence in criminal cases, and (c) for the release upon parole in whatever manner the General Assembly may prescribe, of convicts imprisoned under sentence for crimes."

*Thus added by Chapter 453, 1914. Ratified Nov. 2, 1915.