

shall not exceed in the aggregate the sum of five hundred thousand dollars. And they shall not use or appropriate the proceeds of the internal improvement companies, or of the State tax, now levied, or which may hereafter be levied, to pay off the public debt [or] to any other purpose until the interest and debt are fully paid or the sinking fund shall be equal to the amount of the outstanding debt; but the General Assembly may, without laying a tax, borrow an amount never to exceed fifty thousand dollars to meet temporary deficiencies in the Treasury, and may contract debts to any amount that may be necessary for the defence of the State.

State vs. Hendrickson, 15 Md., 205.

SEC. 35. No extra compensation shall be granted or allowed by the General Assembly to any public officer, agent, servant or contractor, after the service shall have been rendered, or the contract entered into; nor shall the salary or compensation of any public officer be increased or diminished during his term of office.

Levin vs. Hewes, 118 Md.

SEC. 36. No lottery grant shall ever hereafter be authorized by the General Assembly.

Lucas vs. McBlair, 12 G. & J., 1. State vs. Hawkins, 96 Md., 133.

SEC. 37. The General Assembly shall pass no law providing for payment, by this State for slaves emancipated from servitude in this State; but they shall adopt such measures as they may deem expedient to obtain from the United States compensation for such slaves, and to receive and distribute the same equitably to the persons entitled.

SEC. 38. No person shall be imprisoned for debt.

State vs. Mace, 5 Md., 337. Trail vs. Snouffer, 6 Md., 303. Ruggles vs. State, 120 Md.

SEC. 39. The General Assembly shall grant no charter for banking purposes, nor renew any banking corporation now in existence, except upon the condition that the stockholders shall be liable to the amount of their respective share or shares of stock in such banking institution, for all its debts and liabilities upon note, bill or otherwise; the books, papers and accounts of all banks shall be open to inspection under such regulations as may be prescribed by law.

Hammond vs. Strauss, 53 Md., 1. Helfrich vs. Catonsville Water Co., 74 Md., 269. O'Brien vs. Baltimore Belt R. R. Co., 74 Md., 363. Charters of Banks, 102 Md., 514, 619.

SEC. 40. The General Assembly shall enact no law authorizing private property to be taken for public use, without just compensation as agreed upon between the parties, or awarded by a jury, being first paid or tendered to the party entitled to such compensation.