

Sec. 7. No Judge shall sit in any case wherein he may be interested, or where either of the parties may be connected with him by affinity or consanguinity within such degrees as now are or may hereafter be prescribed by law, or where he shall have been of counsel in the case.

Sec. 8. The General Assembly shall provide for the trial of causes in case of the disqualification of the Judge of the Superior Court of Baltimore city, the Court of Common Pleas, the Circuit Court of Baltimore city, and the Criminal Court of Baltimore, and also in case of the disqualification of any Judge of other Circuit Courts of this State, to hear and determine the same, but in case of such disqualification, the parties thereto may, by consent, appoint a person to try the same; and the parties to any cause may submit the same to the Court for determination without the aid of a jury.

Sec. 9. The Judge or Judges of any Court of this State, except the Court of Appeals, shall order and direct the record of proceedings in any suit or action, issue or petition, presentment or indictment pending in such Court, to be transmitted to some other Court in the same or any adjoining Circuit having jurisdiction in such causes, whenever any party to such cause, or the counsel of any party shall make it satisfactorily appear to the Court that such party cannot have a fair and impartial trial in the Court in which such suit or action, issue or petition, presentment or indictment is pending; and the General Assembly shall make such modifications of existing law as may be necessary to regulate and give force to this provision.

Sec. 10. The Judge or Judges of any Court may appoint such officers for their respective Courts, as may be found

necessary, and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to prescribe by law a fixed compensation for all such officers.

Sec. 11. Every person being a citizen of the United States shall be permitted to appear to and try his own case in all the Courts of this State.

Sec. 12. Any person who shall, after this Constitution shall have gone into effect, detain in slavery any person emancipated by the provisions of this Constitution, shall, on conviction be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than five thousand dollars, or be imprisoned not more than five years; and any of the Judges of this State shall discharge, on *Habeas Corpus*, any person so detained in slavery.

Sec. 13. The Clerks of the several Courts created or continued by this Constitution, shall have charge and custody of the Records and other papers, shall perform all the duties and be allowed the fees which appertain to their several offices as the same now are or may hereafter be regulated by law.

Sec. 14. All elections of Judges, and other officers, provided for by this Constitution, States' Attorneys excepted, shall be certified and the returns made by the Clerks of the respective Counties to the Governor, who shall issue commissions to the different persons for the offices to which they shall have been respectively elected; and in all such elections, the person having the greatest number of votes shall be declared to be elected.

Sec. 15. If in any case of election for Judges, Clerks of the Courts of Law, and Registers of Wills, the opposing candidates shall have an equal number of votes, it shall be the duty of the Governor to order a new election; and in case of