

except the prisoner willingly, and without force or violence, confess the same in open court.

See ante page 136, February, 1777, ch. 20, sec. 2, and 24th article of the declaration of rights.

MARCH, 1778.—CHAPTER 9.

AN ACT for the speedy recovery of Public Debts.

This act is superseded by the act relating to the collection of the public revenue, 1809, ch. 127.

CHAPTER 15.

A SUPPLEMENT to an ACT for the better security of Government.

This act contained modifications of the original act imposing a treble tax on non-jurors.

OCTOBER, 1778.—CHAPTER 20.

AN ACT directing the manner of suing Public Bonds, and to aid proceedings in the several courts upon such bonds.

This law authorized suits to be sustained on official bonds executed to the late proprietary.

CHAPTER 21.

AN ACT for amending and declaring the law in the cases therein mentioned.

WHEREAS, by the act, entitled, *An act causing grand and petit jurors to come to the provincial and county courts, and ascertaining their allowances, it is among other things provided that no person having any matter of fact depending for trial in any court whatsoever, shall be admitted as a qualified juror, between party and party, during the sittings of such court that such matter of fact shall be, or shall be expected to be tried in ;

SEC. 2. *Be it enacted and declared by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That no verdict of a jury shall hereafter be set aside, nor judgment on any verdict stayed, arrested or reversed, by reason that any juror who tried the cause had a matter of fact depending for trial as aforesaid.

SEC. 3. *Provided nevertheless,* That it shall and may be lawful, to and for the plaintiff or defendant in any cause to be tried in any of the said courts, to challenge any juror by reason that such juror hath a matter of fact depending for trial as aforesaid, and that the having a matter of fact depending for trial as aforesaid, shall be held and allowed to be a good cause of challenge to any such juror.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That instead of the form of recognizance of bail prescribed by the act, entitled, *An act for taking special bail in the several counties in this state, upon actions or suits depending in the general court, and in the several county courts of this state, the following form shall be observed and used in all actions to be commenced from and after the end of this present session of assembly; that is to say,

Preamble.
* 1715, ch.
37.

No verdict,
to be set
aside, &c.

Proviso.

Form of re-
cognizance
of bail.
* 1715, ch
28.