

information of their manners and customs. It was, of course, a court of a very different time. As all five of the judges of 1778 lived on the water's edge they probably all traveled by sail boat to and from their sessions; the flapping of canvas was one of their familiar sounds, and the world stood still a good deal for their contemplation. Judge Jones has left, in a letter,<sup>37</sup> a description of a night-time wreck of his boat apparently somewhere about Sandy Point, below the mouth of the Magothy River, as he was going to court at Annapolis from his home north of the Patapsco River. He seems to have written while still unnerved by his experience. It would be interesting to know how, if at all, these judges specially arrayed themselves for the court sessions, but this is not known. It was a time when distinctive dress of office was still regarded as necessary, and it is reported by one authority<sup>38</sup> that for many years after the Revolution all the judges of the state sat in gowns, but without wigs; but this must be inexact in part, at least, for Taney noted in the autobiographical portion of his memoirs that the judges of the General Court sat in scarlet coats,<sup>39</sup> and there is a tradition of an official coat of the Chancellor. The justices of the Supreme Court of the United States at the same time appear to have adopted gowns of black and red.<sup>40</sup> But what official attire the judges of the Court of Appeals of Maryland wore has probably passed forever into the great limbo of unre-

37. Md. Hist. Mag. II, 257.

38. Scharf, History of Baltimore City and County, 708, and History Western Maryland, I, 382.

39. Tyler, Memoir of Roger B. Taney, 64.

40. Warren, The Supreme Court in United States History, I, 48.