

could not have been accomplished under any existing general law. *O'Brian v. Baltimore County*, 51 Md. 21.

The act of 1900, chapter 147, regulating the number, jurisdiction, duties and compensation of justices of the peace and constables of Baltimore county, held not to violate the portion of this section prohibiting the passage of a special law for any case for which provision has been made by an existing general law, since the act of 1900 was a local law as distinguished from a special law. *Herbert v. Baltimore County*, 97 Md. 645.

This section held to have no application to the act of 1906, chapter 794, providing for the taxation of mortgages in certain counties, since "there is no general law now existing providing for the taxation of mortgages in Wicomico county." *Miller v. Wicomico County*, 107 Md. 438.

The portion of this section prohibiting the passage of a special act for any case for which provision has been made by an existing general law, held to have no application to the act of 1894, chapter 546, providing for the removal of the county seat of Charles county if the voters so determine and for the erection of a court house, etc., since there was no general law on this subject. *Hamilton v. Carroll*, 82 Md. 337-8.

Generally.

The provision of this section forbidding the passage of a special law for any case for which provision has been made by an existing general law, has respect to the future passage of a special law in a matter already provided for by a general law. The sections of the code relating to negro apprentices can not be denominated a special law. The foregoing portion of this section held not to have been violated. *Brown v. State*, 23 Md. 507 (based on the constitution of 1864).

A public local law is not a special law within the meaning of this section. *Dorchester County v. Meekins*, 50 Md. 39.

The portion of this section prohibiting releasing "persons from their debts or obligation to the state" does not interdict a public general law, but is confined to local or special laws. The act of 1880, chapter 444, amended the law so as to relieve estates passing to a husband from the collateral inheritance tax; section 2 of that act, providing that it should apply to all cases of "collateral inheritance tax heretofore claimed of but not actually paid by the husband of any decedent," held not to be a local or special law within the meaning of this section. Object of this section. *Montague v. State*, 54 Md. 489.

An act amendatory of the general laws passed to regulate the appointment of judges of election, etc., but restricted in its application to about three-fourths of the state, held not to be such a local or special law as is prohibited by this section. *Lankford v. Somerset County*, 73 Md. 117.

The act of 1874, chapter 221, providing for the measurement of oysters in the shell at certain designated places and at all packing establishments in the state, held not to violate the portion of this section prohibiting the passage of a special law for any case for which provision has been made by an existing general law, since such act was not a special law within the meaning of this section; nor was there in existence at the time it was passed a general law on the subject. *McGrath v. State*, 46 Md. 634.

The act of 1904, chapter 263, exempting a particular wharf owned by a church from municipal taxation, held to violate the portion of this section providing that no special law shall be passed for any case for which provision has been made by an existing general law (article 81, section 4). Object of this section. *Baltimore v. Starr Church*, 106 Md. 280.

Section 2 of the act of 1890, chapter 513, remitting the sum due by the authorities of a certain county for examinations of the records in the land office, held to be in violation of this section. *Scharf v. Tasker*, 73 Md. 385.

Cited but not construed in *Rock Hill College v. Jones*, 47 Md. 16.

Sec. 34. No debt shall be hereafter contracted by the General Assembly unless such debt shall be authorized by a law providing for the collection of an annual tax or taxes sufficient to pay the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to discharge the principal thereof