

ARTICLE 52.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Qualification.

1. Oath; office.
2. Not to act before taking; penalty.
3. Accepting office under United States government; penalty.

New Election Districts and New Wards of Baltimore City.

4. Justices for new election districts and new wards.

Civil Jurisdiction.

5. What justice has jurisdiction.
6. To what cases it extends; proviso.
7. To what cases it does not extend.
8. Not to exercise in cases of trespass where defendant claims title to lands.
9. Extends to cases where administrators are parties; exception.
10. Denial of assets by administrator.
11. Concurrent jurisdiction with circuit courts, when.

Criminal Jurisdiction.

12. Jurisdiction of justices over minor offences; process; sentence; accused to be informed of right to jury trial; appeal to court; recognizance; commission to jail upon default of; duty of sheriff.
13. Party for whom warrant is issued, who escapes to another county or city.

14. Amendment of information, warrant, docket entries, etc.
15. Summons or notice to accused; amendment thereof; jurisdiction.
16. Warrant of arrest not interfered with and supersedes summons.

Docket.

17. Must be kept by justice; copies to parties.
18. Failure to keep; penalty.
19. Index; penalty.
20. Delivery to clerk of court upon vacation of office; penalty.
21. Delivery of docket in case of death; penalty.
22. To be kept by clerks as other records.
23. Process upon docket entry by another justice of same county.

Process and Practice.

24. Blank summons not to issue; penalty.
25. Process issued in civil cases to be summons.
26. Failure on part of defendant to appear.
27. More than one defendant; appearance of some and non-appearance of others.
28. Summons for witness.
29. Failure to appear; penalty.
30. Postponement.
31. Trial *ex parte*.
32. No special pleading.
33. Death or disqualification of justice.

As to procedure before justices of peace in landlord and tenant cases, see art. 53.

As to appeals from justices of the peace, see art. 5, sec. 92, *et seq.*

As to jurisdiction of justices of the peace in cases of adulteration of food and drink, see art. 43, sec. 187.

As to duties of justices of the peace in contested election cases and their compensation, see art. 33, secs. 146 and 155.

As to bastardy proceedings before a justice of the peace, see art. 12.

As to fees chargeable by justices of the peace, see art. 36, sec. 20, *et seq.*

See art. 4, secs. 42 and 43, of the Md. Constitution.