

thing in controversy does not exceed one hundred dollars, and which value shall be ascertained by appraisers summoned and sworn by the sheriff or other officer to whom the writ of replevin is directed, and to all cases of attachment against non-resident or absconding debtors, where the sum claimed does not exceed one hundred dollars

**7.** But no justice of the peace shall have any jurisdiction in actions where the title to lands is involved, nor in actions for slander, for breach of promise to marry, or to enforce any lien for work or materials furnished.

**8.** If the defendant, in an action before a justice of the peace for cutting, destroying, or carrying away timber or wood to or from any land in this State, or for doing any other injury to such lands, shall allege in writing that he claims title to said lands, or that he acted under a person claiming title to the same, whom he shall name in such allegation, and shall verify said allegation by oath, the justice shall take no further cognizance of the case.

**9.** In all cases where the amount claimed, or the thing in action, exceeds the sum or value of fifty dollars, and justices of the peace have jurisdiction, the several Circuit Courts for the counties shall have concurrent jurisdiction with justices of the peace.

**10.** The jurisdiction of justices of the peace extends to cases where administrators are parties, plaintiffs, or defendants, except that no administrator shall be sued before a justice within twelve months from the date of his letters.

**11.** If any administrator shall allege in writing, and verify the same by oath, that he has no assets in his hands, or that he has reasonable cause to believe the assets will not be sufficient to pay the debts of the decedent, then the justice of the peace shall transmit the proceedings in relation thereto to the next Circuit Court for the county, or the Baltimore City Court, and such court shall hear and decide the case.

#### PROCEEDINGS BEFORE JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

**12.** The process to be issued by justices of the peace, in civil cases, shall be a summons, wherein shall be stated, briefly, the purpose for which the party is summoned, and made returnable before the justice issuing the same, or before some other justice, to be named therein, on a day to be stated in said summons, not exceeding forty days from the time of issuing the same.

**13.** If the summons shall be returned "summoned," and the defendant shall fail to appear on the return day thereof, then the justice shall fix a day of trial, not less than six nor more than fourteen days from the return day, and proceed to try such case, *ex parte*, the defendant to have the right to appear at any time before judgment, and make any defence he may have, as if he had appeared at the return day of the summons.

Id s 14  
1813, c 162,  
1852, c 239, s 1  
In what cases  
no jurisdiction  
41 Md 196, 200,  
43 Md 64, 46  
Md 183

Id s 33  
1813, c 162, ss  
1-5, 1834, c 138,  
s 6, 1825, c 51, \*  
s 1  
In suit for  
trespass, if de-  
fend int claims  
title, suit to  
abate  
41 Md 196, 46  
Md 184.

Id s 16  
1852, c 239, s 4  
When Circuit  
Courts to have  
concurrent  
jurisdiction  
41 Md 196, 200

Id s 31  
1819, c 167, s 1  
Where adminis-  
trators parties  
4 H & J 448

Id s 32  
1819, c 167, s 2.  
Proceeding  
where adminis-  
trator all ges no  
assets, etc

Art 51, s 18  
1791, c 68, s 6,  
1841, c 139,  
1852, c 76, s 8  
Process in  
civil cases

Id s 19  
1852, c 76, s 3  
Proceeding  
where defend-  
ant summoned,  
fails to appear.