

fact that the same was begun before this Act takes effect, shall not in any way affect the rights of the parties thereto.

EXCLUSIVE AND CONCURRENT JURISDICTION.

Section 179-H. In all suits or causes under this Act when the amount claimed or the things in action shall not be more than \$150.00, said Justices shall have exclusive jurisdiction, subject to appeal; and the concurrent jurisdiction of said Justices with the Circuit Court shall be in all cases when the sum claimed or thing in action exceeds \$150.00 and does not exceed \$300.00

PRACTICE.

Section 179-I. Whenever a civil cause shall be docketed before said Justices, a summons shall forthwith issue to the Defendant or Defendants as the case may be, returnable on a day named therein, not less than six nor more than ten days from the time of the filing of the suit; and if the defendant or defendants are fully summoned and fail to appear on the return day named therein, the cause shall be continued not less than three nor more than five days from the return day; and if the defendant or defendants as the case may be, fail to appear on the day to which said cause is continued, the case shall then be tried ex-parte and the judgment rendered accordingly.

PRACTICE.

Section 179-K. The practice, procedure and rules for the trial and conduct of all causes before said Justices shall be such as have been found proper by usage and custom where the same is found applicable, except that there shall be no special pleading; the common counts or a like declaration, or one similar to the Speedy Judgment Act in form, and the form of pleas may be used; all causes of action shall begin upon the filing of a brief copy of the claim or the instrument upon which the suit is brought; when the party plaintiff is a non-resident of the State of Maryland, the claim must be accompanied by an affidavit such as is required by the speedy judgment act applicable to Allegany County before a Notary Public or other person authorized to administer oaths; costs of all causes shall follow the judgment, and on appeal, the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall tax said costs when the appeal is finally determined; all appeals in both Civil and Criminal causes must be taken