

crimes above enumerated, to serve and labour for any time in their discretion not exceeding 7 years for the same crime, in some place of confinement; and the said justices may procure a proper place or places for the confinement of such female criminals, and may appoint and employ a fit and proper person or persons to take care of such criminals, and to keep them to constant labour, according to their age, ability and strength of body, by assigning them daily tasks in picking of oakum, or in cultivating or beating and hackling hemp or flax, or in manufacturing wool, hemp or flax, or in knitting or sewing, or other similar employment, and such female shall be clothed and fed, and prohibited strong liquor, in like manner as male criminals; and the said justices may compel any of the said female criminals to wear such badge or mark of distinction as they shall direct; and any one of the said justices may order any of the said female criminals to be close confined for any misconduct, or refusal or neglect to labour, and to be fed with bread and water only, for such time as the said justices shall direct.—*ibid.*

§ 11.

9. If any person shall on purpose and of malice aforethought, unlawfully cut out or disable the tongue, put out an eye, slit the nose, cut off the nose or lip, or cut off or disable any limb or member, of any free person, servant, apprentice or slave, with intention in so doing to maim or disfigure, in any of the manners aforesaid, such person, then and in every such case the persons so offending, their counsellors, aiders and abettors, shall be and are hereby declared to be felons, and shall be punished with death, as in cases of felony, without benefit of clergy; provided that the said justices may also adjudge to serve and labor as aforesaid; all such persons, convicted of any of these offences, in the same manner as those convicted of other felonies—*ibid.* § 12.

10. If any slave shall be convicted before the said justices of any of the crimes above enumerated, and for which, by law, such slave would be liable to suffer death, and if any slave shall be convicted of wilfully burning any dwelling house, or of any of the crimes enumerated in the act of assembly passed in the year 1751, entitled, an act for the more effectual punishment of negroes and other slaves, (see *negroes and slaves*, art. 27, 28, 29) and for taking away the benefit of clergy from certain offenders, and a supplementary act to an act, entitled, an act to prevent the tumultuous meeting and other irregularities of negroes and other slaves, and directing the manner of trying slaves, the said justices shall pass sentence of death only, or they may, in their discretion, adjudge such slave to serve and labour for such time as they may think proper not exceeding 14 years, for the same crime, on the public roads of Baltimore county, or in making, repairing or cleaning the streets or basin of Baltimore town; and if any slave shall be adjudged to serve and labour agreeably to this act, or if any servant shall be so adjudged for any offence not punishable with death, the said justices shall, immediately on conviction and condemnation, value such slave, or the time of such servant, and enter