

## NEGROES AND SLAVES.

Owners of slaves not to suffer them to depart from their plantations and remain at large, becoming burthensome to the neighbourhoods. *Ibid.* § 17.

The county courts empowered to take recognizance for a compliance with this part of the act. *Ibid.*

Penalty on free negroes giving or selling their certificates of freedom. *Ibid.* § 18.

The masters to have a remedy in any court of law. *Ibid.*

Penalty on persons giving a pass to a slave, or person held to service, or assisting their transportation from this state, or by unlawful means depriving the owners of their service. *Ibid.* § 19.

Such person liable also to an action for damages. *Ibid.*

Punishment of slaves selling liquor, or keeping entertainment at any horse-race, &c. without permission in writing from their owners. *Ibid.* § 20.

Provision for taking up free negroes, &c. living idle, without means of subsistence, and for making them give security, or committing them. *Ibid.*

No petition for freedom shall originate in the general court, but in the county court where the petitioner resides, under the direction of his owner. *Ibid.* § 21.

The process to be issued to the county where the owner resides. *Ibid.*

Either party may apply for a trial by jury, which shall be charged as the law directs, &c. *Ibid.* § 22.

Either party may challenge peremptorily twelve jurors impannelled, and for want of a sufficient number remaining on the original pannel a *tales*, at the prayer of either party, shall be awarded. *Ibid.* § 24.

An appeal allowed as to matters of law only to the general court, and bills of exception to be taken. *Ibid.* § 23.

On all petitions for freedom thereafter instituted, where they shall be dismissed, or on trial judgment be against the petitioner, the attorney shall pay all legal costs, unless the court shall be of opinion, under all circumstances, that there was probable ground to suppose the said petitioners had a right to freedom. *Ibid.* § 25.

In cases depending, where others by the same parties have been dismissed, proceedings to be staid by the court till the costs of such former petitions, and all reasonable expences, &c. to be ascertained by the court, are paid. *Ibid.*

If not paid within six months, the defendants to be discharged from their recognizances, and the petition dismissed. *Ibid.* § 26.

On a petition being dismissed, and a second petition filed, proceedings shall be staid till the costs of the former petition, and all reasonable damages, &c. (to be ascertained by the court,) shall be paid or secured. *Ibid.* § 27.

The county courts to give this act in charge to the grand juries. *Ibid.* § 28.

Mode of manumitting slaves by writing. *Ibid.* § 29.

The mayor of the city of Baltimore, with any two justices of the peace, may arrest and imprison any French slave who is dangerous to the city, and may send such slave to the West-Indies in the manner therein directed. 1797, ch. 75.

Slaves to be valued by the assessors and collectors according to their ages, &c. in the manner therein prescribed. *Ibid.* ch. 89, § 1, 14, 17.

Negroes considered as assets in the hands of the executor or administrator. 1798, No. 101, ch. 7.

The annual value of estates committed to guardians, to be estimated, including slaves. *Ibid.* ch. 12, § 6.

Guardians having the care of real estates shall cultivate them with the slaves, &c. belonging to the ward, or to be pur-

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chased with the approbation of the orphans court, or may lease such estates, &c. *Ibid.* § 8.

In case the personal property of a ward shall consist of slaves, &c. the orphans court may pass an order for the sale thereof. *Ibid.* § 12.

## NEW TRIALS.

Where a verdict shall be set aside and a new trial granted, the courts may continue the cause, not exceeding four courts after the usual time of continuance, on reasonable terms. November, 1787, ch. 9, § 8.

New trials directed in certain cases where judgments are reversed on appeal or writ of error. 1790, ch. 42.

See APPEALS.

## NICOLITES.

The society of people called Nicolites or New Quakers, entitled to all the rights, privileges, immunities and franchises, that the people called Quakers enjoy under the declaration of rights, form of government, or the laws. November, 1783, ch. 18.

Members of the religious society called Nicolites, (being otherwise qualified,) may qualify themselves by affirmation to hold seats in the legislature, or to hold offices of profit or trust. 1794, ch. 49, confirmed by 1795, ch. 11.

The nicolites shall be allowed to take their solemn affirmation as witnesses in the manner that quakers have been heretofore allowed to affirm, which affirmation shall be of the same avail as an oath to all intents and purposes whatever. 1797, ch. 118, confirmed by 1798, ch. 83.

## NOBILITY.

No title of nobility or hereditary honours ought to be granted in this state. Decl. 40.

## NOLLE PROSEQUI.

Not to be granted by the governor in prosecutions by presentment or indictment for the recovery of any fine, penalty or forfeiture only. April, 1782, ch. 42, § 4.

The governor on granting a *nolle prosequi* may grant the same on such conditions, and with such limitations, as may appear most adviseable. 1795, ch. 82, § 3.

## NON COMPOS MENTIS.

See IDIOT. INFANT. LUNATIC.

## NON EST FACTUM.

The plea of *non est factum* shall not be received unless verified by affidavit, or unless the defendant, being heir, executor or administrator, obtain leave from the court on shewing just cause. October, 1778, ch. 20, § 5, 1785, ch. 80, § 3.

## NONJURORS.

The treble tax imposed on nonjurors remitted. October, 1780, ch. 46.

So much of the act for the better security of government, (October, 1777, ch. 20,) as imposed on nonjurors a disability to sue for debts, practise physic, or carry on merchandise, repealed. November, 1781, ch. 17.

So much of the said act as imposed a treble tax on nonjurors repealed. November, 1782, ch. 13.

So much of the said act as disqualified and disabled nonjurors from holding offices and voting at elections repealed. 1786, ch. 14, § 2.

Such persons to take the oath of allegiance before they vote at elections. *Ibid.* § 3.

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