

At a SESSION of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of MARYLAND, begun and held at the City of ANNAPOLIS, on Thursday the twenty-fifth of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two, the following LAWS were enacted.

C H A P. I.

An ACT for the adjournment of civil causes ruled for trial at the next general court for the western shore.

**B**E it enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That all civil causes, now depending in the general court for the western shore, and ruled for trial at the next term, shall be and are, by virtue of this act, continued until the first Tuesday in June next, on which day the said court shall be held, and shall proceed to the trial, hearing, and determination, of all such civil causes, and they shall stand for trial on the several days in the first, second, third, and fourth weeks of the court in the month of June next, as marked in the first, second, third, and fourth weeks of the court in the present month of May; that the court may, in their discretion, appoint other days for the trial of such causes; and all summonses for witnesses on civil causes, returnable on any particular day, shall, by virtue of this act, be returnable three weeks later than the day expressed in the summons, and the witnesses shall attend on such days respectively, and may be fined by the court for non-attendance; and the court may, in their discretion, continue any such civil action, if the same cannot be tried with justice to the plaintiff and defendant. Causes continued, &c.

II. And, Whereas it will be very inconvenient to require the persons summoned as the petit jury to attend at the court in course, and also at the adjourned court:

III. Be it enacted, That every person summoned as a petit juror to appear the second Tuesday in the present month of May, shall not be obliged to attend on the said day, but he shall be obliged to appear on the first Tuesday of June next, to serve as a petit juror at the said court; and if any person summoned shall neglect to appear at the said day, not having a reasonable excuse, from sickness or other unavoidable accident, he may be fined by the court not exceeding thirty-five pounds current money; and, in case a sufficient number of petit jurors shall not attend for the trial of any cause, the court may issue a *venire de circumstantibus* to the sheriff of Anne-Arundel county, to summon the number required (qualified by law) for the trial of any particular cause; but no person shall be obliged to serve against his consent on more than one trial. When petit jurors are to appear, &c.