

*freedom,** in the manner that they have been heretofore allowed to affirm, which affirmation shall be of the same avail as an oath to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

*The words in italic are omitted in the supplement, 1815, ch. 182.

Court to be satisfied that such persons are conscientiously scrupulous.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That before any of the persons aforesaid shall be admitted as a juror in any court of justice in this state, the court shall be satisfied, by such testimony that they may require, that such person is one of those who profess to be conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath.

CHAPTER 76.

* 1791, ch. 68. A SUPPLEMENT to the ACT,* entitled, an Act for the recovery of Small Debts out of Court, and to repeal the acts of Assembly therein mentioned.

See notes to the original law, ante page 277.

Jurisdiction of justices of the peace extended.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That from and after the first day of May next, in all cases where the real debt and damages doth not exceed the sum of fifty dollars, it shall and may be lawful for any one justice of the peace of each respective county wherein the debtor doth reside, to try, hear and determine, the matter in controversy between the creditor and debtor, and upon full hearing of the allegations and evidences of both parties, to give judgment according to the laws of the land, and the equity and right of the matter, in the same manner, and under the same rules and regulations, to all intents and purposes, as such justices of the peace are now authorized and empowered to do when the debt and damages do not exceed the sum of ten pounds current money.

See note to 1791, ch. 68, sec. 1.

Judgments above ten pounds may be superseded within sixty days, for twelve months.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That in all cases where judgments shall be rendered by a justice of the peace for any sum exceeding ten pounds current money, it shall be lawful for the defendant to supersede the said judgment at any time within sixty days from the rendition thereof, which supersedeas shall stay execution for twelve months thereafter.

Justice rendering judgment to take supersedeas

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That where any judgment shall be superseded, the said supersedeas shall be taken by the justice who rendered the judgment, and no other, provided such justice is living in the county, and acting in his judicial capacity.

Justices to keep dockets, &c.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted,* That the justices of the peace in the respective counties be and they are hereby directed, and it is hereby made their duty, to keep a docket, and therein to record and make regular entries of their proceedings in all cases in which they shall act in virtue of their office, and they are hereby directed to furnish the plaintiff and defendant respectively with a copy of any judgment by them given, when