

experience evinces that the surest way of preventing the perpetration of crimes, and of reforming offenders, is by a mild and justly proportioned scale of punishments; therefore,

SEC. 2. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the offences herein after mentioned against the government and the supremacy of the laws, shall be punished in manner following; that is to say, 1st. Every person duly convicted of the crime of high treason against the state, shall suffer death by hanging by the neck, or be sentenced to undergo a confinement in the penitentiary house herein after mentioned for a period not less than six nor more than twenty years, at the discretion of the court, and shall be kept therein at hard labour, or in solitude, and shall in all things be treated and dealt with as is herein after directed. 2d. Every free negro, mulatto or slave, who shall be duly convicted of actually raising, and every white person who shall be duly convicted of actually raising, with any free negro, mulatto or slave, insurrection or rebellion in this state, shall suffer death by hanging by the neck; and every free negro, mulatto or slave, who shall be duly convicted of consulting, conspiring, or attempting to raise, and every white person who shall be duly convicted of consulting, conspiring, or attempting, with any free negro, mulatto or slave, to raise, insurrection or rebellion in this state, shall be sentenced to undergo a confinement in the said penitentiary for a period of time not less than six or more than twenty years, to be treated in all respects as herein after directed. 3d. Every person who shall be duly convicted of the crime of counterfeiting the great seal of this state for the time being, or the seal of any court, or any other public seal of this state, and of making use of the same, or of stealing any of the said true seals, or of unlawfully, falsely and corruptly, or with evil intent, affixing any of them to any deed, warrant or writing, or who shall be convicted of having in his or her possession or custody such counterfeit instrument, and shall wilfully conceal the same, knowing it to be falsely made or counterfeited, shall be sentenced to undergo a confinement in the said penitentiary for a period of time not less than five nor more than ten years, to be treated as herein after directed. 4th. Every person who shall be convicted of having forged and counterfeited any gold or silver coin, which now is or hereafter shall be passing or in circulation within this state, or of having falsely uttered, paid, or tendered in payment, any such counterfeit and forged coin, knowing the same to be forged and counterfeited, or of having aided, abetted or commanded, the perpetration of either of the said crimes, shall be sentenced to undergo a confinement in the said penitentiary house not less than four nor more than ten years, to be treated as herein after directed.

Punishment of offences affecting government.

1. Of treason.

2. Of insurrection of negroes, &c.

3. Of counterfeiting public seals.

4. Of counterfeiting coin.