

alteration and confirmation thereof at least two thirds of all the members of each branch of the general assembly shall concur.

60. That every bill passed by the general assembly, when engrossed, shall be presented by the speaker of the house of delegates, in the senate, to the governor for the time being, who shall sign the same, and thereto affix the great seal, in the presence of the members of both houses. Every law shall be recorded in the office of the court of appeals of the western shore<sup>(t)</sup>, and in due time printed, published and certified, under the great seal, to the several county courts, in the same manner as hath been heretofore used in this state.

61. (u).

62. That every person, being a member of either of the religious sects or societies called Quakers, Menonists, Tunkers, or Nicolites or New Quakers, and who shall be conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath on any occasion, being otherwise qualified and duly elected a senator, delegate, or elector of the senate, or being otherwise qualified and duly appointed or elected to any office of profit or trust, on making affirmation instead of taking the several oaths appointed by the constitution and form of government, and the several acts of assembly of this state now in force, or that hereafter may be made, such person may hold and exercise any office of profit or trust to which he may be appointed or elected, and may, by such affirmation, qualify himself to take a seat in the legislature, and to act therein as a member of the same in all cases whatever, or to be an elector of the senate, in as full and ample a manner, to all intents and purposes whatever, as persons are now competent and qualified to act who are not conscientiously scrupulous of taking such oaths<sup>(v)</sup>.

63. That the people called Quakers, those called Nicolites or New Quakers, those called Tunkers, and those called Menonists, holding it unlawful to take an oath on any occasion, shall be allowed to make 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. That before any of the persons aforesaid shall be admitted as a witness in any court of justice in this state, the court shall be satisfied, by such testimony as they may require, that such person is one of those who profess to be conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath<sup>(w)</sup>.

64. That in any suit or action at law hereafter to be commenced or instituted in any county court of this state, the judges thereof, upon suggestion, in writing, by either of the parties thereto, supported by affidavit, or other proper evidence, that a fair and impartial trial cannot be had in the county court of the county where such suit or action is depending, shall and may order and direct the record of their

(t) So provided by the act of 1804, ch. 55, confirmed by 1805, ch. 16, instead of the general court, which was thereby abolished.

(u) This section, for introducing the new government, directed that an election be held for the electors of the senate on Monday the 25th of November 1776, and that the electors meet at Annapolis on Monday the 9th of December 1776, and there choose senators; that an election be held on Wednesday the 18th of December 1776, for delegates to serve in general assembly, and for sheriffs; and prescribed the manner, &c. of holding the said elections, and to whom the returns should be made. That the general assembly should meet at Annapolis on Monday the 10th of February 1777, and then choose a governor and council for the residue of the year; and prescribed the manner of filling, in the first instance only, all the offices in the disposition of the governor with the advice of the council. Which provisions ceasing to have any operation, the section is left blank, but the number is retained in order to preserve the original numbers of the constitution.

(v) This was made a part of the constitution by the act of 1794, ch. 49, confirmed by 1795, ch. 11.

(w) This was made a part of the constitution by the act of 1797, ch. 118, confirmed by 1798, ch. 83.