

ing the freedom of speech or of the press. No man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place or ministry whatsoever; nor shall any man be enforced, restrained, molested, or burthened in his body or goods, or otherwise suffer, on account of his religious opinions or belief; but all men shall be free to profess and by argument to maintain their opinions in matters of religion, and the same shall in no wise affect, diminish, or enlarge their civil capacities. And the general assembly shall not prescribe any religious test whatever; or confer any peculiar privileges or advantages on any sect or denomination; or pass any law requiring or authorizing any religious society, or the people of any district within this commonwealth, to levy on themselves or others any tax for the erection or repair of any house for public worship, or for the support of any church or ministry; but it shall be left free to every person to select his religious instructor, and to make for his support such private contract as he shall please.

16. No law shall embrace more than one object, which shall be expressed in its title: nor shall any law be revived or amended by reference to its title, but the act revived, or section amended, shall be re-enacted and published at length.

17. The general assembly may provide that no person shall be capable of holding, or being elected to, any post of profit, trust, or emolument, civil or military, legislative, executive or judicial, under the government of this commonwealth, who shall hereafter fight a duel, or send or accept a challenge to fight a duel, the probable issue of which may be the death of the challenger or challenged, or who shall be second to either party, or shall in any manner aid or assist in such duel, or shall be knowingly the bearer of such challenge or acceptance; but no person shall be so disqualified by reason of his having heretofore fought such duel, or sent or accepted such challenge, or been second in such duel, or bearer of such challenge or acceptance.

18. The governor, lieutenant-governor, judges, and all others offending against the state, by mal-administration, corruption, neglect of duty, or other high crime or misdemeanor, shall be impeachable by the house of delegates, and be prosecuted before the senate, which shall have the sole power to try impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation; and no person shall be convicted, without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honour, trust, or profit under the commonwealth; but the party convicted shall nevertheless be subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law. The senate may sit during the recess of the general assembly for the trial of impeachments.

#### SLAVES AND FREE NEGROES.

19. Slaves hereafter emancipated shall forfeit their freedom by remaining in the commonwealth more than twelve months after they