

Declaration of Rights.

9.

Article XXXII. That in all ages, bondage, wherever it has existed, having proved itself a bar to the true principles of civil society, and a violation of the indubitable rights of man; wherefore neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall be tolerated in this Commonwealth, except for the punishment of crimes, of which the party shall have been duly convicted; nor shall any male person, arrived at the age of twenty one years, nor female person arrived at the age of eighteen years, be held to serve any person, as a servant, under indenture, or otherwise, unless such person, while in a state of perfect freedom, shall enter into such indenture and on condition of a consideration, in good faith received, or to be received for their services, except as before excepted.

Article XXXIII. That every Citizen has a right to bear arms for the defense of himself, and the community, and this right shall never be questioned.

Article XXXIV. That the person of a debtor where there is not strong presumption of fraud, ought not to be detained in prison after delivering up his effects for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

Article XXXV. That suits may be brought against this Commonwealth in such manner, and in such cases, as the Legislature may by law direct.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XIII. Colonization Pamphlets

1. The Declaration of Rights,
The Constitution of the
State of Md. in Liberia

(rough draft, engrossed copy, printed copy)