

CHAPTER XCII.

[THE LAW ABOUT COURT PROCEEDINGS AND SUMMONS.]

[Section I.] Be it enacted by the Proprietary and Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of this Province and Territories in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That in all courts, all persons of all persuasions may freely appear in their own way, and according to their own manner, and there personally plead their own cause themselves, or if unable, by their friends: and that the first process shall be the exhibition of the complaint, fourteen days before the trial: and that the defendant may be prepared for his defense, he or she shall be summoned no less than ten days before, and a copy of the complaint delivered him or her, at his or her dwelling house, to answer unto. But before the complaint of any person shall be received, he or she shall solemnly declare in open court, That he or she believeth in his or her conscience that his or her cause is just. And if the party complained against shall notwithstanding refuse to appear, the plaintiff shall have judgment against defendant by default.]

Passed November 27, 1700; allowed to become a law by lapse of time, in accordance with the proprietary charter, having been considered by the Queen in Council, February 7, 1705-6, and not acted upon. See Appendix I, Section II.

CHAPTER XCIII.

[THE LAW ABOUT TRIALS BY TWELVE MEN.]

[Section I.] Be it enacted by the Proprietary and Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the freemen of this Province and Territories in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That all trials in civil cases shall be by twelve