

a Justice of the Supreme or a Judge of a district Court, for an offence not punishable with death, shall afterwards procure a writ, and there be no Judge of the United States in the district to take the same, it may be taken by any Judge of the Supreme or Superior Court of Law of such State.

And be it further enacted, That the laws of the several States except where the Constitution, treaties or statutes of the United States shall otherwise require or provide, shall be regarded as rules of decision in trials at common law in the Courts of the United States in cases where they apply.

And be it further enacted, That in all the Courts of the United States the parties may plead and manage their own causes personally or by the assistance of such Counsel or Attorneys at law as by the rules of the said Courts respectively shall be permitted to manage and conduct causes therein. And there shall be appointed in each district a meet person, learned in the law, to act as Attorney for the United States in such district, who shall be sworn or affirmed to the faithful execution of his office, whose duty it shall be to prosecute in each district all delinquents for crimes and offences, cognizable under the authority of the United States, and all civil actions in which the United States shall be concerned, except before the Supreme Court in the district in which that Court shall be holden. And he shall receive as a compensation for his services such fees as shall be taxed therefor in the respective Courts before which the suits or prosecutions shall be. And there shall also be appointed a meet person, learned in the law, to act as Attorney General for the United States, who shall be sworn or affirmed to a faithful execution of his office, whose duty it shall be to prosecute and conduct all suits in the Supreme Court in which the United States shall be concerned, and to give his advice and opinion upon questions of law when required by the President of the United States or when requested by the heads of any of the departments, touching any matters that may concern their departments, and shall receive such compensation for his services as shall by law be provided.

Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

John Adams, Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

Approved September 13th
1789.

G. Washington - President of the United States