



Konstytucja sejmu - „Konkwikcje w sprawach kryminalnych” - Tekst angielski

It has been proven that in some criminal cases torture is often used to make the accused confess, which is a fallible method of conviction and a cruel one for proving one's innocence. Described in the universal and our national laws, manifestos, indicia, in recenti crimine deprehensio, propria oris confessio¹, inquisitions and other evidence are better means of conviction; they are fairer and more in accordance with all laws. Hence all of our national court jurisdictions that have ius gladii² are thus forbidden, tanquam pro crimine status³, to use torture to force confession, and any disobedience will be prosecuted. The jurisdictions shall use the means of conviction described above in all criminal cases. And if those need any improvement, we shall amend, alter or pass them during future Sejm gatherings. According to the same rule, all courts and subsellia⁴ in causis maleficii⁵ and in witch cases are forbidden to use death penalitatem⁶. The Act shall apply to the Grand Duchy of Lithuania as well. Translated © by Jerzy Giebułtowski

¹ Indicia, in recenti crimine deprehensio, propria oris confessio – Denunciation, catching somebody in the act and testimony.

² Ius gladii – The right of the sword, meaning the right to impose the death penalty. It was granted for example to Polish municipal courts.

³ Tanquam pro crimine status – Also in criminal cases.

⁴ Subsellium – a lawsuit.

⁵ In causis maleficii – In damage cases (caused by sorcery)

⁶ Penalitas – Penalty.