Book X. Title LX.

Concerning persons accused. (De reis postulatis.)

10.60.1. Emperor Alexander to Nicia.

That persons accused of crime should not seek any new honors, before their innocence is shown, has often been written both by our divine parents and by me.

Note.

We have already seen in note to C. 9.1.1 that ordinarily a person accused lost his right to accuse anyone else, except in certain cases. He could not be a witness. D. 22.5.3.5. He could not, until acquitted, acquire any new honors, and it was capital punishment for him to enter the army. Geib, <u>Gesch. d. Rom. Criminal Proc</u>. 558. So grave was considered the status of a person over whom an accusation was pending, that if the period during which an indictment was pending was lengthened out for one reason or another, the judges were directed to take that fact into consideration in passing sentence. D. 48.19.25 pr. And this was at least one of the reasons why the period for finishing the prosecution was limited. See C. 9.44.