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The Constitution of 1867

Constitution of Maryland

ADOPTED BY THE CONVENTION,
WHICH ASSEMBLED AT THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS, ON THE EIGHTH DAY OF MAY,
EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVEN, AND ADJOURNED ON THE
SEVENTEENTH DAY OF AUGUST, EIGHTEEN
HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVEN.

THE DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.¹

We, the People of the State of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberty, and taking into our serious consideration the best means of establishing a good Constitution in this State for the sure foundation and more permanent security thereof, declare:

Article 1. That all Government of right originates from the People, is founded in compact only, and instituted solely for the good of the whole; and they have, at all times, the inalienable

right to alter, reform or abolish their Form of Government, in such manner as they may deem expedient.

Art. 2. The Constitution of the United States, and the Laws made, or which shall be made, in pursuance thereof, and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, are, and shall be the Supreme Law of the State; and the Judges of this State, and all the People of this State, are, and shall be bound thereby; anything in the Constitution or Law of this State to the contrary notwithstanding.

Art. 3. The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution

¹This is a verbatim reprint of the first recorded printed edition of the Maryland Constitution of 1867. It was printed with marginal notes, an appendix, and an index by Edward Otis Hinkley, Esq., in Baltimore in 1867 by John Murphy & Co., after the Constitution was ratified by the people on September 18, 1867. The punctuation and capitalization is that originally used. The copy of the 1867 edition from which this reprint was prepared is owned by the State of Maryland and, together with the Convention's handwritten draft, is on file at the Hall of Records, Annapolis.