

PROCEEDINGS of CONVENTION.

On motion of Mr. S. Chase, the question was put, That the following be inserted as an article in the form of government? "That no person who refused (unless from religious principles) and did not subscribe the association on or before the fourth day of July last, shall at any time hereafter be qualified to hold any office of profit or trust in this state, unless by act of the general assembly." Carried in the negative.

A F F I R M A T I V E.

Messieurs	Barnes, Hooe, Dent, Parnham,	Bowie, B. Hall, Sprigg, Marbury,	J. Hall, Worthington, S. Chase,	Bayly, Sheredine, Edelen,	Bcall, Stull, J. T. Chase,	Gilpin, D. Smith, Kent.
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N E G A T I V E.

Messieurs	Fenwick, Plater, Fitzhugh, J. Mackall, J. Wilson,	Williams, Fischer, Shriver, Ridgely, Deye,	Stevenson, Shepherd, Bond, Love, Archer,	Brevard, T. Smyth, S. Wright, Gibson,	Mason, Dickinson, Johnson, Gustavus Scott,	George Scott, Horley, Bishop, Mitchell.
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The convention having gone through the form of government paragraph by paragraph, and made several additions and amendments, the same was agreed to as follows :

The **CONSTITUTION** and **FORM** of **GOVERNMENT**, agreed to by the **DELEGATES** of **MARYLAND** in free and full **CONVENTION** assembled.

1. **T H A T** the legislature consist of two distinct branches, a senate, and a house of delegates, which shall be styled **The General Assembly** of Maryland.
2. That the house of delegates shall be chosen in the following manner: All freemen, above twenty-one years of age, having a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county in which they offer to vote, and residing therein, and all freemen, having property in this state above the value of thirty pounds current money, and having resided in the county in which they offer to vote one whole year next preceding the election, shall have a right of suffrage in the election of delegates for such county; and all freemen so qualified shall, on the first Monday of October, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and on the same day in every year thereafter, assemble in the counties in which they are respectively qualified to vote, at the court-house in the said counties, or at such other place as the legislature shall direct; and when assembled, they shall proceed to elect, *viva voce*, four delegates for their respective counties, of the most wise, sensible, and discreet of the people, residents in the county where they are to be chosen one whole year next preceding the election, above twenty-one years of age, and having in the state real or personal property above the value of five hundred pounds current money; and upon the final casting of the polls, the four persons who shall appear to have the greatest number of legal votes, shall be declared and returned duly elected for their respective county.
3. That the sheriff of each county, or in case of sickness, his deputy, (summoning two justices of the county, who are required to attend for the preservation of the peace) shall be judge of the election, and may adjourn from day to day, if necessary, till the same be finished, so that the whole election shall be concluded in four days; and shall make his return thereof under his hand, to the chancellor of this state for the time being.
4. That all persons, qualified by the charter of the city of Annapolis to vote for burgesses, shall, on the same first Monday of October, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and on the same day in every year for ever thereafter, elect, *viva voce*, by a majority of votes, two delegates, qualified agreeable to the said charter; that the mayor, recorder and aldermen, of the said city, or any three of them, be judges of the election, appoint the place in the said city for holding the same, and may adjourn from day to day as aforesaid, and shall make return thereof as aforesaid; but the inhabitants of the said city shall not be entitled to vote for delegates for Anne-Arundel county, unless they have a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county, distinct from the city.
5. That all persons, inhabitants of Baltimore-town, and having the same qualifications as electors in the county, shall on the same first Monday of October, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and on the same day in every year for ever thereafter, at such place in the said town as the judges shall appoint, elect, *viva voce*, by a majority of votes, two delegates, qualified as aforesaid; but if the said inhabitants of the town shall so decrease, as that the number of persons having right of suffrage therein shall have been, for the space of seven years successively, less than one half of the number of voters in some one county in this state, such town thenceforward shall cease to send two delegates or representatives to the house of delegates, until the said town shall have one half of the number of voters in some one county in this state.
6. That the commissioners of the said town, or any three or more of them, for the time being, shall be judges of the said election, and may adjourn as aforesaid, and shall make return thereof as aforesaid; but the inhabitants of the said town shall not be entitled to vote for or be elected delegates for Baltimore county, neither shall the inhabitants of Baltimore county, out of the limits of Baltimore-town, be entitled to vote for or be elected delegates for the said town.
7. That on refusal, death, disqualification, resignation, or removal out of this state, of any delegate, or on his becoming governor, or member of the council, a warrant of election shall issue by the speaker, for the election of another in his place, of which ten days notice at the least, excluding the day of notice and the day of election, shall be given.
8. That not less than a majority of the delegates, with their speaker, (to be chosen by them by ballot) constitute a house for the transacting any business, other than that of adjourning.
9. That the house of delegates shall judge of the elections and qualifications of delegates.
10. That the house of delegates may originate all money bills, propose bills to the senate, or receive those offered by that body, and assent, dissent, or propose amendments; that they may inquire, on the oath of witnesses, into all complaints, grievances and offences, as the grand inquest of this state, and may commit any person for any crime to the public gaol, there to remain till he be discharged by due course of law; they may expel any member for a great misdemeanor, but not a second time for the same cause; they may examine and pass all accounts of the state, relating either to the collection or expenditure of the revenue, or appoint auditors to state and adjust the same; they may call for all public or official papers and records, and send for persons, whom they may judge necessary, in the course of their inquiries, concerning affairs relating to the public interest, and may direct all office bonds (which shall be made payable to the state) to be sued for any breach of duty.

11. That