

SEC. 40. The General Assembly shall enact no law authorizing private property to be taken for public use, without just compensation, as agreed upon between the parties, or awarded by a jury, being first paid or tendered to the party entitled to such compensation.

SEC. 41. Any citizen of this State, who shall, after the adoption of this Constitution, either in, or out of this State, fight a duel with deadly weapons, or send, or accept a challenge so to do, or who shall act as a second, or knowingly aid or assist in any manner those offending, shall ever thereafter, be incapable of holding any office of profit or trust, under this State, unless relieved from the disability by an Act of the Legislature.

SEC. 42. The General Assembly shall pass laws necessary for the preservation of the purity of elections.

SEC. 43. The property of the wife shall be protected from the debts of her husband.

SEC. 44. Laws shall be passed by the General Assembly, to protect from execution, a reasonable amount of the property of the debtor, not exceeding in value, the sum of five hundred dollars.

SEC. 45. The General Assembly shall provide a simple and uniform system of charges in the offices of Clerks of Courts, and Registers of Wills in the counties of this State, and the city of Baltimore, and for the collection thereof, provided, the amount of compensation to any of the said officers in the various counties, shall not exceed the sum of three thousand dollars a year, and in the city of Baltimore thirty-five hundred dollars a year, over and above office expenses, and compensation to assistants; and provided further, that such compensation, of Clerks, Registers, assistants and office expenses shall always be paid out of the fees, or receipts of the offices, respectively.

SEC. 46. The General Assembly shall have power to receive from the United States, any grant, or donation of land, money, or securities for any purpose designated by the United States, and shall administer, or distribute the same according to the conditions of the said grant.

SEC. 47. The General Assembly shall make provisions for all cases of contested elections of any of the officers, not herein provided for.

SEC. 48. Corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special act, except for municipal purposes, and except in cases, where no gen-