

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 they 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.