

execute the said office for the residue of the said four years, the said person giving bond with security as aforesaid. No person shall be eligible to the office of sheriff but a resident of such county or city respectively, and who shall have been a citizen, of this State at least five years preceeding his election, and above the age of twenty-one years. The two candidates, properly qualified, having the highest number of legal ballots, shall be declared duly elected for the office of sheriff for such county or city, and return to the Governor with a certificate of the number of ballots for each of them.

Sec. 17. The General Assembly shall have power to tax clerks of the District Courts, Registers of Wills and the clerk of the court of Appeals; but all such taxes shall be in equal proportion, as far as practicable, according to the actual value of said office respectively.

Sec. 18. The Judges of the several county courts, Baltimore city court and the Orphans' Court of the several counties, Justices of the Peace, Registers of Wills and clerks of county courts of the several counties and Baltimore city court who may be in office at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall remain in office, and continue to discharge the duties of their respective offices, until the appointment or election and qualification of the Judges, Justices of the Peace, Registers of Wills and Clerks, provided for by this constitution and no longer; and the first election of Clerks, Registers, Justices of the Peace and Sheriffs, and all other officers, whose election by the people is provided for in this article of the constitution, shall take place throughout this State on \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-two.

Sec. 19. To facilitate the dispatch of business in the Orphans' courts of this State, the General Assembly shall by law, prescribe rules of practice in the said courts; enlarge and define the powers and duties of registers of wills, and authorise them to pass such orders as may be necessary and proper, to bring any cause, suit or business depending in the said courts to a final hearing, and determination; but no order, act or proceeding of the registers of wills of a judicial nature, shall not be final and conclusive until ratified, and confirmed by the court.