

ties, shall compose the first district; Harford and Baltimore counties, and the first seven wards of Baltimore city, shall compose the second district; Baltimore city, except the first seven wards, shall compose the third district; Allegany, Washington, Frederick, Howard and Carroll counties, shall compose the fourth district; Saint Mary's, Charles, Anne Arundel, Calvert, Prince George's, and Montgomery counties, shall compose the fifth district; and one of the judges of the court of appeals shall be appointed from each of said districts.

Sec. 13. The court of appeals shall hold its sessions in the city of Annapolis, on the first Monday in April, and the first Monday in October, in each and every year, or at such other times as the general assembly may by law direct, and it shall be competent for the judges of said court, sufficient cause appearing to them, temporarily to transfer their sittings elsewhere.

Sec. 14. The jurisdiction of the court of appeals shall be co-extensive with the limits of the State, and such as now is or may hereafter be prescribed for it by law, and its sessions shall continue for not less than ten months in the year, if the business before it shall so require.

Sec. 15. Any three of the judges of the court of appeals may constitute a quorum, but no cause shall be decided without the concurrence of at least three judges in the decision, and in every case decided, an opinion in writing shall be filed within six months after the argument or submission of the cause, and the judgment of the court shall be final and conclusive.

Sec. 16. The salary of the justices of the court of appeals shall be four thousand dollars each per annum, payable quarterly.

Sec. 17. Provision shall be made by law for publishing reports of all causes argued and determined in the court of appeals.

Sec. 18. The court of appeals shall appoint its own clerk, who shall hold his office for six years, and may be reappointed at the end thereof; he shall be subject to removal by the said court for incompetency, neglect of duty, misdemeanor in office, or such other cause or causes as may be prescribed by law.

PART III.

Circuit Court.

Sec. 19. The State shall be divided into eight judicial circuits, in manner following: The counties of St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's, shall constitute the first circuit. The counties of Calvert, Anne Arundel, and Montgomery, the second. The counties of Allegany, Washington, and Frederick, the third. The counties of Baltimore, Howard, and Carroll, the fourth. The counties of Harford, Cecil, and Kent, the fifth. The counties of Queen Anne's, Talbot, and Caroline, the sixth. The counties of Dorchester,

Somerset, and Worcester, the seventh. And the city of Baltimore, the eighth.

Sec. 20. In each of the above named circuits, except the eighth, there shall be three courts, one to be held in each county; they shall be called circuit courts for the county in which they may be held, and shall have and exercise all the power, authority, and jurisdiction, original and appellate, which the present circuit courts of this State now have and exercise, or which may hereafter be prescribed by law.

Sec. 21. For each circuit (the eighth excepted) there shall be three judges, who shall be styled circuit judges, one of said judges, during his term of office, shall reside in each county of the circuit; the said judges shall hold a term of their courts in each of the counties composing their respective circuits at such times as now are or may hereafter be fixed by law, such terms to be never less than two in each year in each county; special terms may be held by said judges, in their discretion, whenever the business of their several counties renders such terms necessary; a single judge may hold sessions of the circuit court for the disposal of all equity business, all business merely formal and uncontested, appeals from the decisions of justices of the peace, (but no other appeals,) and such causes civil or criminal as the parties litigant shall consent to try before a single judge.

Sec. 22. The salary of each judge of the circuit court shall be three thousand dollars per annum, payable quarterly, and shall not be increased or diminished during his continuance in office.

Sec. 23. There shall be a clerk of the circuit court for each county, who shall be elected by a plurality vote of the qualified voters of said county; he shall hold his office for the term of six years from the time of his election, and until a new election is held and his successor duly qualified; he shall be re-eligible at the end of his term, and shall at any time be subject to removal for wilful neglect of duty, or other misdemeanor in office, on conviction in a court of law.

PART IV.

Orphans' Courts.

Sec. 24. There shall be an orphans' court in each of the counties of the State, and the city of Baltimore, and the circuit judge resident in any county shall be ex-officio chief judge of the orphans' court of such county, and one of the judges of the circuit court of Baltimore city shall sit as chief judge of the orphans' court of said city; the qualified voters of the city of Baltimore and of the several counties of the State shall, on Tuesday next after the first Monday in the month of November, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, and on the same day of the same month in every fourth year thereafter, elect two men to be associate judges of the orphans' court of