

said city and counties respectively; no person shall be elected associate judge of the orphans' court unless he be a citizen of the State of Maryland, and resident in the city or county for which he may be elected at the time of his election; each of said associate judges shall be paid at a per diem rate for the time they are in session, to be fixed by the legislature, and paid by the said counties and city respectively.

Sec. 25. The said orphans' courts shall have all the powers now vested in the orphans' courts of this State, subject to such changes therein as the legislature may prescribe; and in addition to the jurisdiction now exercised by the said courts, they shall have and exercise in relation to the real estate of deceased persons concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit courts sitting as courts of equity, and it shall be the duty of the legislature to make such modifications of existing laws as may be requisite to give full power and effect to this provision.

Sec. 26. There shall be a register of wills in each county of the State, and in the city of Baltimore, to be elected by the legal and qualified voters of said counties and city respectively, who shall hold his office for six years from the time of his election, and until his successor is elected and qualified; he shall be re-eligible, and subject at all times to removal for wilful neglect of duty, or misdemeanor in office, in the same manner that clerks of courts are removable. In the event of any vacancy in the office of register of wills, said vacancy shall be filled by the judges of the orphans' court in which such vacancy occurs, until the next general election of delegates to the general assembly, when a register shall be elected to serve for six years thereafter.

PART V.

Courts of Baltimore City.

Sec. 27. There shall be in the eighth judicial circuit two courts, to be styled the superior court of Baltimore city and the circuit court of Baltimore city; each court to consist of three judges, who shall be appointed in the same manner, hold their offices for the same time, and have the same general powers and duties as are herein prescribed for other judges of courts of record in this State.

Sec. 28. The superior court of Baltimore city shall have all the power and jurisdiction heretofore conferred upon and exercised by the superior court and the court of common pleas of Baltimore city, (except the equity powers of the superior court,) subject to such modifications as may be made by law, and the judges shall so apportion and distribute the business of their court as shall best facilitate the dispatch of business and promote the ends of justice.

Sec. 29. Either of said judges may sit alone for the trial of causes appealed from the decisions of justices of the peace, for the dis-

position of all formal and uncontested business, and such other business as the parties litigant shall consent to try before a single judge; but it shall be the right of any party to an original cause pending in said court, under such rules and regulations as the court may prescribe, to require the presence of at least two of the judges of said court at the trial thereof.

Sec. 30. The circuit court of Baltimore city shall have all the jurisdiction and authority heretofore exercised by the criminal court and the circuit court of Baltimore city, or which may hereafter be prescribed by law; and the judges shall apportion and distribute the business of their court in such a manner as shall best facilitate the dispatch of business and promote the ends of justice.

Sec. 31. One of the judges of said court shall sit as chief judge of the orphans' court of the city of Baltimore, and either of the judges may sit alone in either department of the business of said court, but it shall be the right of any party to an issue pending in said court, under such rules as the court shall fix, to require the presence of at least two of the judges at the trial thereof; and no order for an injunction or the appointment of a receiver shall be passed without the concurrence of at least two of the judges therein.

Sec. 32. Each of said judges shall receive an annual salary of three thousand five hundred dollars, payable quarterly.

Sec. 33. There shall be a clerk of the superior court and a clerk of the circuit court of Baltimore city, who shall be elected by the qualified voters of the city of Baltimore, hold their respective offices for the term of six years, and until a new election is held and his successor duly qualified, and be re-eligible thereto, but removable by the judges of the court of which they are respectively clerks, for incompetency, wilful neglect of duty, misdemeanor in office, and such other causes as may be prescribed by law.

Sec. 34. The judges of the superior court as herein constituted, shall designate as clerk of said court, in their discretion, either the clerk of the present superior court, or the clerk of the court of common pleas, and the person so designated as clerk shall continue to act as such until the end of the time for which he was elected; the other of said clerks shall, until the end of the time for which he was elected, continue to act as clerk in that department of the business of the superior court which, in the judgment of the judges of said court, nearest corresponds to the business of the court of which he was elected clerk, and shall receive the fees and emoluments pertaining thereto as he would have done if said court had continued an independent court, and the judges of said superior court shall make such rules and regulations as may be found necessary to give full force and effect to this provision.