

respective share or shares of stock in such banking institution for all its debts and liabilities upon note, bill or otherwise; and upon the further condition that no director or other officer of said corporation shall borrow any money from said corporation; and if any director or other officer shall be convicted upon indictment of directly or indirectly violating this section, he shall be punished by fine or imprisonment at the discretion of the court. The books, papers, and accounts of all banks shall be open to inspection, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law.

Sec. 39. 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. 40. 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 thus offending, and any citizen who has thus offended, or who has so aided or assisted those thus offending, since the first Wednesday of June, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, shall ever thereafter be incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under this State.

Sec. 41. The general assembly shall pass laws for the preservation of the purity of elections by the registration of voters, and by such other means as may be deemed expedient; and to make effective the provisions of the constitution disfranchising certain persons, or disqualifying them from holding office.

Sec. 42. The general assembly shall pass laws necessary to protect the property of the wife from the debts of the husband during her life, and for securing the same to her issue after her death.

Sec. 43. Laws shall be passed by the general assembly to protect from execution a reasonable amount of property of a debtor, not exceeding in value the sum of five hundred dollars.

Sec. 44. 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 said officers shall not exceed the sum of twenty-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. 45. 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. 46. The general assembly shall make provision for all cases of contested elections of any of the officers not herein provided for.

Sec. 47. The general assembly shall pass laws requiring the president, directors, trustees, or agents of corporations created or authorized by the laws of this State, teachers or superintendents of the public schools, colleges, or other institutions of learning; attorneys-at-law, jurors, and such other persons as the general assembly shall from time to time prescribe, to take the oath of allegiance to the United States, set forth in the first article of this constitution.

Sec. 48. The general assembly shall have power to accept the session of any territory contiguous to this State, from the States of Virginia and West Virginia, or from the United States, with the consent of congress, and of the inhabitants of such ceded territory, and in case of such cessions the general assembly may divide such territory into counties, and shall provide for the representation of the same in the general assembly, on the basis fixed by this constitution, and may for that purpose increase the number of senators and delegates, and the general assembly shall enact such laws as may be required to extend the constitution and laws of this State over such territory, and may create courts conformably to the constitution for such territory, and may for that purpose increase the number of judges of the court of appeals.

Sec. 49. The general assembly shall provide by law for the registration of births, marriages and deaths, and shall pass laws providing for the celebration of marriage between any persons legally competent to contract marriage, and shall provide that any persons prevented by conscientious scruples from being married by any of the existing provisions of law, may be married by any judge or clerk of any court of record, or any mayor of any incorporated city in this State.

Sec. 50. The rate of interest in this State shall not exceed six per centum per annum, and no higher rate shall be taken or demanded, and the general assembly shall provide by law, all necessary forfeitures and penalties against usury.

Sec. 51. Corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special act, except for municipal purposes and in cases where, in the judgment of the general assembly, the object of the corporation cannot be attained under general laws. All laws and special acts, pursuant to this section may be altered from time to time, or