

ing to them, temporarily to transfer their sittings elsewhere.

Sec. 19. 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. 20. Any three of the justices of the court of appeals may constitute a quorum, but no cause shall be decided without the concurrence of at least three justices in the decision; and in every case decided an opinion in writing shall be filed within three months after the argument or submission of the cause, and the judgment of the court shall be final and conclusive.

Sec. 21. The salary of the justices of the court of appeals shall be three thousand dollars each per annum, payable quarterly.

Sec. 22. Provision shall be made by law for publishing reports of all causes argued and determined in the court of appeals, which the justices shall designate as proper for publication.

Sec. 23. The court of appeals shall appoint its own clerk, who shall hold his office for six years, and may be re-appointed 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 Courts.*

Sec. 24. The State shall be divided into thirteen judicial circuits, in manner following: The counties of St. Mary's and Charles shall constitute the first circuit; the counties of Anne Arundel and Calvert, the second; the counties of Prince George's and Montgomery, the third; the county of Frederick, the fourth; the county of Washington, the fifth; the county of Allegany, the sixth; the counties of Carroll and Howard, the seventh; the county of Baltimore, the eighth; the counties of Harford and Cecil, the ninth; the counties of Kent and Queen Anne's, the tenth; the counties of Talbot and Caroline, the eleventh; the counties of Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester, the twelfth; and the city of Baltimore, the thirteenth.

Sec. 25. One court shall be held in each county of the State; the said courts 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. 26. For each circuit (the thirteenth excepted) there shall be one judge, who shall be styled circuit judge, who, during his term of office, shall reside in one of the counties composing the circuit for which he may be

electd; 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.

Sec. 27. The present judges of the circuit courts shall continue to act as judges of the respective circuit courts within the judicial circuits in which they respectively reside, until the expiration of the term for which they were respectively elected, and until their successors are elected and qualified, viz: the present judges of the first, second, third, fourth, sixth and eighth judicial circuits, as organized at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall continue to act as judges respectively of the first, second, fourth, fifth, ninth and twelfth judicial circuits, as organized under this constitution; and an election for judges of the third, sixth, seventh, eighth, tenth and eleventh judicial circuits shall be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in the month of November, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four.

Sec. 28. The salary of each judge of the circuit court shall be twenty-five hundred dollars per annum, payable quarterly, and shall not be increased or diminished during his continuance in office.

Sec. 29. There shall be a clerk of the circuit court for each county, who shall be elected by a plurality 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. In the event of any vacancy in the office of the clerk of any of the circuit courts, said vacancy shall be filled by the judge of said circuit in which said vacancy occurs, until the next general election for county officers, when a clerk of said circuit court shall be elected to serve for six years thereafter.

Sec. 30. The judges of the respective circuit courts of this State, and of the courts of Baltimore city, shall render their decisions in all cases argued before them, or submitted for their judgment, within two months after the same shall have been so argued or submitted.

#### *Part IV.—Courts of Baltimore City.*

Sec. 31. There shall be in the thirteenth judicial circuit four courts, to be styled the superior court of Baltimore city; the court of common pleas; the circuit court of Baltimore city; and the criminal court of Baltimore; each court shall consist of one judge, who shall be elected by the legal and qualified