

shall be competent to the party against whom the ruling or decision is made, upon motion, to have the point or question reserved for the consideration of the three Judges of the Circuit, who shall constitute a court in *banc* for such purpose; and the motion for such reservation shall be entered of record during the sitting at which such decision may be made; and the several Circuit Courts shall regulate, by rules, the mode and manner of presenting such points or questions to the court in *banc*, and the decision of the said court in *banc* shall be the effective decision in the premises, and conclusive, as against the party at whose motion said points or questions were reserved; but such decision in *banc* shall not preclude the right of appeal or writ of error to the adverse party, in those cases, civil or criminal, in which appeal, or writ of error to the Court of Appeals may be allowed by law. The right of having questions reserved shall not, however, apply to trials of appeals from judgments of Justices of the Peace, nor to criminal cases below the grade of felony, except when the punishment is confinement in the Penitentiary; and this section shall be subject to such provisions as may hereafter be made by law.

#### DECISIONS IN TWO MONTHS.

SEC. 23. 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.

#### SALARIES NOT TO BE DIMINISHED.

SEC. 24. The salary of each Chief Judge, and of the Judge of the Court of Appeals from the city of Baltimore, shall be three thousand five hundred dollars, and of each Associate Judge of the Circuit Court, shall be two thousand eight hundred dollars per annum, payable quarterly, and shall not be diminished during his continuance in office.\*

#### CLERKS TO BE ELECTED—REMOVAL—VACANCY.

SEC. 25. 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, and shall hold his office for six years from the time of his election and until his successor is elected and qualified, and be re-eligible, subject to be removed for wilful neglect of duty, or other misdemeanor in office, on conviction in a court of law. In case of a vacancy in the office of clerk of a Circuit

\*NOTE.—Under general appropriation Act of 1894, increased to \$4,500 for the Chief Justices and the Judge in the Court of Appeals from Baltimore city, and \$3,600 salary for the Associate Justices.