

ARTICLE V.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND STATE'S ATTORNEY.

Attorney-General.

Election.

SEC. 1. There shall be an Attorney-General elected by the qualified voters of the State, on general ticket, on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in the month of November, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, and on the same day in each fourth year thereafter, who shall hold his office for four years from the time of his election and qualification, and until his successor is elected and qualified, and shall be re-eligible thereto, and shall be subject to removal for incompetency, willful neglect of duty or misdemeanor in office, on conviction in a court of law.

Groome vs. Gwinn, 43 Md., 572. Parker vs. State, 99 Md., 189.

Term.

Returns of election.

SEC. 2. All elections for Attorney-General shall be certified to, and returns made thereof by the Clerks of the Circuit Courts for the several counties, and the Clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore City, to the Governor of the State, whose duty it shall be to decide on the election and qualification of the person returned; and in case of a tie between two or more persons to designate which of said persons shall qualify as Attorney-General, and to administer the oath of office to the person elected.

Groome vs. Gwinn, 43 Md., 572.

Duties.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the Attorney General to prosecute and defend on the part of the State all cases which at the time of his appointment and qualification and which thereafter may be depending in the Court of Appeals, or in the Supreme Court of the United States, by or against the State, or wherein the State may be interested; and he shall give his opinion in writing whenever required by the General Assembly or either branch thereof, the Governor, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or any State's Attorney, on any legal matter or subject depending before them or either of them; and when required by the Governor or General Assembly he shall aid any State's Attorney in prosecuting any suit or action brought by the State in any Court of the State, and he shall commence and prosecute or defend any suit or action in any of said courts, on the part of the State, which the General Assembly or the Governor, acting according to law, shall direct to be commenced, prosecuted or defended, and he shall have and perform such other duties and shall appoint such

Opinion.