

THE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

**Section 1.** All elections shall be by ballot; and every white male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, or upwards, who has been a resident of the State for one year, and of the Legislative District of Baltimore City, or of the county, in which he may offer to vote, for six months next preceding the election, shall be entitled to vote, in the ward or election district, in which he resides, at all elections hereafter to be held in this State; and in case any county, or city, shall be so divided as to form portions of different electoral districts, for the election of Representatives in Congress, Senators, Delegates, or other Officers, then, to entitle a person to vote for such officer, he must have been a resident of that part of the county, or city, which shall form a part of the electoral district, in which he offers to vote, for six months next preceding the election; but a person, who shall have acquired a residence in such county, or city, entitling him to vote at any such election, shall be entitled to vote in the election district from which he removed, until he shall have acquired a residence in the part of the county, or city, to which he has removed.

**Sec. 2.** No person above the age of twenty-one years, convicted of larceny, or other infamous crime, unless pardoned by the Governor, shall ever thereafter be entitled to vote at any election in this State; and no person under guardianship, as a lunatic, or, as a person *non compos mentis*, shall be entitled to vote.

**Sec. 3.** If any person shall give, or offer to give, directly or indirectly, any bribe, present, or reward, or any prom-

ise, or any security for the payment, or the delivery of money, or any other thing, to induce any voter to refrain from casting his vote, or to prevent him, in any way, from voting, or to procure a vote for any candidate, or person proposed, or voted for, as Elector of President and Vice-President of the United States, or Representative in Congress, or for any office of profit or trust, created by the Constitution or Laws of this State, or by the Ordinances, or Authority of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, the person giving, or offering to give, and the person receiving the same, and any person, who gives, or causes to be given, an illegal vote, knowing it to be such, at any election to be hereafter held in this State, shall, on conviction in a Court of Law, in addition to the penalties now, or hereafter to be, imposed by Law, be forever disqualified to hold any office of profit or trust, or to vote at any election thereafter.

**Sec. 4.** It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to pass Laws to punish, with fine and imprisonment, any person, who shall remove into any election district, or precinct of any ward of the City of Baltimore, not for the purpose of acquiring a *bona fide* residence therein, but for the purpose of voting at an approaching election, or, who shall vote in any election district, or ward, in which he does not reside, (except in the case provided for in this article,) or shall, at the same election, vote in more than one election district, or precinct, or shall vote, or offer to vote, in any name not his own, or in place of any other person of the same name, or shall vote in any county, in which he does not reside.