

Appeals, as soon after their election as practicable, to devise, and promulgate by rules, or orders, forms and modes of framing and filing bills, answers, and other proceedings and pleadings in Equity; and also forms and modes of taking and obtaining evidence, to be used in Equity cases; and to revise and regulate, generally, the practice in the Courts of Equity of this State, so as to prevent delays, and to promote brevity and conciseness in all pleadings and proceedings therein, and to abolish all unnecessary costs and expenses attending the same. And all rules and regulations hereby directed to be made, shall, when made, have the force of Law, until rescinded, changed, or modified by the said Judges, or the General Assembly.

PART III—CIRCUIT COURTS.

Sec. 19. The State shall be divided into eight Judicial Circuits, in manner following, viz: the Counties of Worcester, Somerset and Dorchester, shall constitute the First Circuit; the Counties of Caroline, Talbot, Queen Anne's, Kent and Cecil, the Second; the Counties of Baltimore and Harford, the Third; the Counties of Allegany and Washington, the Fourth; the Counties of Carroll, Howard and Anne Arundel, the Fifth; the Counties of Montgomery and Frederick, the Sixth; the Counties of Prince George's, Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's, the Seventh; and Baltimore City, the Eighth.

Sec. 20. A Court shall be held in each County of the State, to be styled the Circuit Court for the County, in which it may be held. The said Circuit Courts shall have and exercise, in the respective Counties, 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. 21. For each of the said Circuits (excepting the Eighth,) there shall be a Chief Judge, and two Associate Judges, to be styled Judges of the Circuit Court, to be elected or appointed, as herein provided. And no two of said Associate Judges shall, at the time of their election, or appointment, or during the term, for which they may have been elected, or appointed, reside in the same County. If two or more persons shall be candidates for Associate Judge, in the same County, that one only in said County shall be declared elected, who has the highest number of votes in the Circuit. In case any two candidates for Associate Judge, residing in the same County, shall have an equal number of votes, greater than any other candidate for Associate Judge, in the Circuit, it shall be the duty of the Governor to order a new election for one Associate Judge; but the person, residing in any other County of the Circuit, and who has the next highest number of votes shall be declared elected. The said Judges shall hold not less than two Terms of the Circuit Court in each of the Counties, composing their respective Circuits, at such times as are now, or may hereafter be prescribed, to which Jurors shall be summoned; and in those Counties, where only two such Terms are held, two other and intermediate Terms, to which Jurors shall not be summoned; they may alter or fix the times for holding any, or all Terms until otherwise prescribed, and shall adopt Rules to the end that all business not requiring the interposition of a Jury shall be, as far as practicable, disposed of at said intermediate Terms. One Judge, in each of the above Circuits, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business; and the said