

Part III—Circuit Courts.

SEC. 19. The State shall be divided into eight judicial circuits, in manner following, viz.: The counties of Worcester, Somerset, Dorchester and Wicomico,* 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, Washington and Garrett,† 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, the second, the third and the sixth, there shall be a chief judge and two associate judges, to be styled judges of the Circuit Court, to be selected or appointed as herein provided, and for the second circuit, the third circuit and the sixth circuit, there shall be a chief judge and three 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, for any of the said circuits, except the third and sixth circuits 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 in any of the circuits, except the third and sixth circuits, that only one 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 in any of the circuits, except the third and sixth circuits, residing in the same county shall have an equal number of votes greater than any other candidates 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 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

* Wicomico formed since the adoption of this Constitution.

† Garret formed since the adoption of this Constitution.