

SEC. 28. The Superior Court of Baltimore City, the Court of Common Pleas, and the Baltimore City Court¹ shall, each, have concurrent jurisdiction in all civil common Law cases, and concurrently, all the jurisdiction which the Superior Court of Baltimore City and the Court of Common Pleas now have, except jurisdiction in Equity, and except in applications for the benefit of the Insolvent Laws of Maryland, and in cases of Appeal from judgments of Justices of the Peace in said City, whether civil or criminal, or arising under the ordinances of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, of all of which appeal cases the Baltimore City Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction; and the said Court of Common Pleas shall have exclusive jurisdiction in all applications for the benefit of the Insolvent Laws of Maryland, and the supervision and control of the Trustees thereof.

SEC. 29. The Circuit Court of Baltimore City shall have exclusive jurisdiction in Equity within the limits of said city, and all such jurisdiction as the present Circuit Court of Baltimore City has; provided, the said Court shall not have jurisdiction in applications for the writ of *habeas corpus* in cases of persons charged with criminal offenses.

SEC. 30. The Criminal Court of Baltimore shall have and exercise all the jurisdiction, now held and exercised by the Criminal Court of Baltimore, except in such appeal cases as are herein assigned to the Baltimore City Court.

SEC. 31. There shall be elected by the legal and qualified voters of said city, at the election, hereinbefore provided for, one Chief Judge, and four Associate Judges, who, together, shall constitute the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City, and shall hold their offices for the term of fifteen years, subject to the provisions of this Constitution with regard to the election and qualifications of Judges, and their removal from office, and shall exercise the jurisdiction, hereinafter specified, and shall each receive an annual salary of three thousand five hundred dollars², payable quarterly, which shall not be diminished during their term of office; but authority is hereby given to the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to pay to each of the said judges an annual addition of five hundred dollars to their respective salaries; provided, that the same, being once granted, shall not be diminished, nor increased, during the continuance of said Judges in office.

¹ The jurisdiction of the Baltimore City Court, the Superior Court and the Court of Common Pleas was enlarged by Chapter 177, Acts of 1870.

² See note to Article 4, Section 24, above.