

¹SEC. 24. The salary of each Chief Judge and of each Associate Judge of the Circuit Court shall not be diminished during his continuance in office.

²SEC. 25. There shall be a Clerk of the Circuit Court for each County, who shall be elected by a plurality of the qualified voters of said County, and shall hold his office for four years from the time of his election, and until his successor is elected and qualified, and be re-eligible, subject to be removed for wilful neglect of duty or other misdemeanor in office, on conviction in a Court of Law. In case of a vacancy in the office of Clerk of a Circuit Court, the Judges of said Court shall have power to fill such vacancy until the general election for Delegates to the General Assembly, to be held next thereafter, when a successor shall be elected for the term of four years.

³SEC. 26. The said Clerks shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Judges of their respective Courts, as many deputies under them, as the said Judges shall deem necessary to perform, together with themselves, the duties of the said office, who shall be removable by the said Judges for incompetency, or neglect of duty, and whose compensation shall be according to existing, or future provisions of the General Assembly. In Washington County, all deputy clerks and other clerks shall be appointed pursuant to and be removable according to the merit system procedure established by law for these deputies and clerks.

Part IV—Courts of Baltimore City.

SEC. 27. There shall be the Eighth Judicial Circuit, six Courts, to be styled the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City, the Superior Court of Baltimore City, the Court of Common Pleas, the Baltimore City Court, the Circuit Court of Baltimore City⁴ and the Criminal Court⁵ of Baltimore.

SEC. 28. The Superior Court of Baltimore City, the Court of Common Pleas, and the Baltimore City Court⁶ 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

¹ Thus amended by Chapter 99, Acts of 1956, ratified November 6, 1956. See also sections 14 and 31A of this Article.

² Thus amended by Chapter 99, Acts of 1956, ratified November 6, 1956.

³ Thus amended by Chapter 376, Acts of 1972, ratified November 7, 1972.

⁴ Circuit Court No. 2 established by Chapter 194, Acts of 1888.

⁵ Criminal Court No. 2 established by rule of the Supreme Bench, December 21, 1897. See *Jackson v. State*, 87 Md. 191.

⁶ The jurisdiction of the Baltimore City Court, the Superior Court, and the Court of Common Pleas was enlarged by Chapter 177, Acts of 1870.