

1. THE CONSTITUTION AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT,

gomery county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts; Allegany county shall be divided and laid off into eight(i) separate districts; Anne-Arundel county(k), excluding the city of Annapolis, shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts; all that part of the second election district of Anne-Arundel county, lying out of the city of Annapolis, shall constitute and compose the second election district of the said county; and the polls for the second election district of Anne-Arundel county shall be held at the house of Jacob Waters, near the blacksmith's shop, on the main road leading from the city of Annapolis to the city of Washington(k); and Baltimore county, out of the limits of the city of Baltimore, shall be divided and laid off into seven districts; and the said citizens, when assembled, shall proceed to elect, by ballot(l), four delegates for their respective counties, of the most wise, sensible, and discreet of the people, residents in the county where they are to be chosen one whole year next preceding the election, above twenty-one years of age(m).

3. That all matters which relate to the judges, place, time and manner, of holding elections for delegates of the several counties, shall hereafter be regulated by law(n).

4. That every free white male citizen of this state, above twenty-one years of age, and no other(o), having resided twelve months within this state, and six months in the city of Annapolis, next preceding the election at which he offers to vote(o), shall have a right of suffrage, and shall, on the first Monday of October seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and on the same day in every year for ever thereafter, vote by ballot(p), in the election of the said city, and elect by a majority of votes, two delegates to the general assembly of this state(q). That

(i) Allegany county had been divided into six districts, which were altered to eight by 1816, ch. 32, confirmed by 1817, ch. 14.

(k) An act was passed to alter and change such parts of the constitution as related to the division of Anne-Arundel county into election districts, and to change the place of holding the elections in the second district, 1816, ch. 252, confirmed by 1817, ch. 149. These acts had the effect of changing a part of the constitution established by the acts of 1798 and 1799, which provided that Anne-Arundel county, including the city of Annapolis, should be laid off into five separate districts. The making a sixth district therein, to wit the city of Annapolis, which was left out of the second district, did not extend to elections for county delegates, the right of voting for whom by the inhabitants of Annapolis, having a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county, was taken away by the act of November 1809, ch. 38, confirmed by 1810, ch. 49, but only to other elections therein mentioned.

(l) The original manner of electing *visa voce*, was altered by November 1809, ch. 83, confirmed by 1810, ch. 33, to voting by ballot; a similar alteration having been before made by 1801, ch. 90, confirmed by 1802, ch. 20.

(m) The persons to be chosen were required to have in the state, real or personal property above the value of five hundred pounds current money, but by November 1809, ch. 198, confirmed by 1810, ch. 18, all such parts of the constitution as required a property qualification in persons elected members of the legislature, were abolished. The subsequent part of the section, respecting the final casting up of the polls is omitted, every part thereof which related to the judges, place, time and manner, of holding elections for delegates, having been abrogated by the act of 1798, ch. 115, confirmed by 1799, ch. 48, and left to be regulated by law.

(n) The original provisions by which the sheriffs were constituted the judges, and directed to make returns after holding the elections four days, if necessary, were abrogated by the act of 1798, ch. 115, confirmed by 1799, ch. 48, and the above having thereby become a part of the constitution, is considered proper to be substituted in this section. The elections have since been regulated by 1799, ch. 50, and 1805, ch. 97, and the time fixed to the first Monday in October in every year, a before.

(o) The former property qualification which in the city of Annapolis referred to the charter, was abolished by November 1809, ch. 83, confirmed by 1810, ch. 33, and the term of residence preceding the election was altered by the same acts, as stated in notes (a) and (b) to section 2.

(p) The manner of electing *visa voce* was altered by November 1809, ch. 83, confirmed by 1810, ch. 33, to voting by ballot.

(q) The two delegates were to be qualified agreeable to the charter of the city, which required their having a freehold or visible estate of the value of twenty pounds sterling therein. This property qualification, together with that required for county delegates, was abolished by November 1809, ch. 198, confirmed by 1810, ch. 18.