December 28, 1804, passed and transmitted to the Senate, a bill, (act 1804, chapter 55), to effectuate the change. The Senate passed it on January 2, 1805, by a vote of nine to three. It then lay over until the November session, 1805, after an election of that year, and soon after the opening of the session it was finally confirmed, without discussion.

The constitutional amendment thus made provided that all original jurisdiction above that of magistrates should be vested in the county courts, and that these should be grouped into six judicial districts, each to be presided over by a chief judge and two associate judges, all of whom were to be lawyers, and that the chief judges of the six districts should constitute the Court of Appeals. This arrangement, it will be observed, approximated closely to that of the federal judiciary act of September 24, 1789,[57] and was ultimately derived from the system in England. The new districts were not entirely the same as those arranged in 1790; the first was, after 1805, to comprise St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's Counties; the second, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties; the third, Calvert, Anne Arundel and Montgomery Counties; the fourth, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester Counties; the fifth, Frederick, Washington and Allegany Counties; and sixth, Baltimore and Harford Counties. The Court of Appeals was to exercise all the ap-

57. Frankfurter and Landis, The Business of the Supreme Court of the United States, 17. Chancellor Bland, 1 Bland, Chancery, 678, note, remarked that it involved a return to the practice of having one man sit as judge in more than one court, intended to be prohibited by the Declaration of Rights of 1776.