

in the same manner as mechanics' liens are now enforced by law, and upon such *scire facias* the defendant may rely upon any defence which would render the imposition of such tax void, or operate as a discharge thereof, and such *scire facias* may issue at any time within three years from the filing of the statement required by the last preceding section; but any defendant intending to dispute the validity of said tax, and wishing to test the same before the expiration of said time, may at any time after the filing of said statement, give notice to said Mayor and City Council, in writing, that he disputes the validity of such tax, and wishes to test the same, so as to free his property from said lien claim, and in such case, unless said Mayor and City Council shall issue a *scire facias* thereon against said party within sixty days after the receipt of such notice, said lien shall be waived and avoided as against his property, and in all cases of writs of *scire facias* issued under this section, the same shall stand for trial at the first term of court after issuing thereof; *provided* the same shall have been served on the defendant, and a return of such service made by the sheriff at least ten days before the commencement of said term; and upon all judgments rendered in such cases, there shall be a stay of thirty days, and no longer; provided that either party may appeal to the Court of Appeals of Maryland from any ruling or decision of any questions of law decided by the Circuit Court in such trial; and in case the defendant shall appeal and file a proper appeal bond, then said stay of thirty days shall be counted from the affirmance of such judgment, if the same shall be affirmed, and not from the date of the judgment below.

When waived

File appeal bond.

48. The Mayor and City Council shall cause to be maintained a registration of the legal voters of the several wards of said city; and the registration made under the authority of existing law shall, together with such additions, changes and alterations as may be or become necessary, constitute such registration; said registration shall be made and corrected in the manner provided in the general registration law of the State, and shall specify the residence of the voters on each street, lane and alley, and such registration shall be essential to the right of voting at any elec-

Registration

How corrected.