

CHAPTER 244.

AN ACT making provision for Contested Elections, Pursuant to the forty-eight section of the third article of the Constitution. Passed May 21, 1853.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That all contested elections for Comptroller, Commissioner of Lotteries, and Commissioner of the Land Office, shall be decided by the House of Delegates. To be decided by House of Delegates.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That all cases of contested elections of any of the officers, not provided for in the constitution, nor by the first section of this act, shall be decided by the judges of the several circuit courts, each in his respective circuit. Cases to be decided by judge of court

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That each judge of the circuit court may adopt such mode of proceeding in cases of contested elections, and prescribe such rules for taking testimony and adjudging costs as to him shall seem most satisfactory and least expensive. Mode of proceeding.

CHAPTER 245.

AN ACT to protect the property of the Wife from the debts of her Husband, as required by the thirty-eight section of the third article of the Constitution. Passed May 24, 1853.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the property real and personal, belonging to a woman at the time of her marriage, and all property which she may acquire or receive after her marriage, by purchase, gift, grant, devise, bequest or in a course of distribution shall be protected from the debts of the husband, and not in any way be liable for the payment thereof; *Provided,* that no acquisition of property passing to the wife from her husband after coverture, shall be valid, if the same has been made or granted to her in prejudice of the rights of his subsisting creditors. Property to be protected. Proviso.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That in order to effect the objects of the foregoing section, the wife shall have the benefit of all such remedies for her relief and security, as now exist or may be devised in the courts of law or equity of this State. Benefit of existing remedies.