

sheriff for each county, the one of whom having the majority of votes, or if both have an equal number, either of them, at the discretion of the governor, to be commissioned by the governor for the said office; and having served for three years, such person shall be ineligible for the four years next succeeding: bond with security to be taken every year as usual, and no sheriff shall be qualified to act before the same is given. In case of death, refusal, resignation, disqualification, or removal out of the county, before the expiration of the three years, the other person chosen as aforesaid, shall be commissioned by the governor to execute the said office for the residue of the said three years; the said person giving bond with security as aforesaid, and in case of his death, refusal, resignation, disqualification, or removal out of the county, before the expiration of the said three years, the governor, with the advice of the council, may nominate and commission a fit and proper person to execute the said office for the residue of the said three years; the said person giving bond and security as aforesaid; the election shall be held at the same time and place appointed for the election of delegates, and the justices there summoned to attend for the preservation of the peace shall be judges thereof, and of the qualification of candidates, who shall appoint a clerk to take the ballots: all freemen above the age of twenty-one years, having a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county in which they offer to ballot, and residing therein, and all freemen above the age of twenty-one years, and having property in the state above the value of thirty pounds current money, and having resided in the county in which they offer to ballot one whole year next preceding the election, shall have a right of suffrage; no person to be eligible to the office of sheriff for a county but an inhabitant of the said county, above the age of twenty-one years, and having real and personal property in the state above the value of one thousand pounds current money; the justices aforesaid shall examine the ballots, and the two candidates properly qualified, having in each county the majority of legal ballots, shall be declared duly elected for the office of sheriff for such county, and returned to the governor and council, with a certificate of the number of ballots for each of them.

43. That every person who shall offer to vote for delegates, or for the electors of the senate, or for the sheriff, shall (if required by any three persons qualified to vote) before he be admitted to poll, take such oath or affirmation of support and fidelity to this state as this Convention or the legislature shall direct.

44. That a justice of the peace may be eligible as a senator, delegate, or member of the council, and may continue to act as a justice of the peace.

45. That no field officer of the militia shall be eligible as a senator, delegate, or member of the council.

46. That all civil officers hereafter to be appointed for the several counties of this state shall have been residents of the county respectively for which they shall be appointed, six months next before their appointment, and shall continue residents of their county respectively during their continuance in office.

47. That the judges of the general court and justices of the county courts may appoint the clerks of their respective courts, and in case of refusal, death, resignation, disqualification, or removal out of the state, or from their respective shores, of the clerks of the general court, or either of them, in the vacation of the said court; and in case of the refusal, death, resignation, disqualification, or removal out of the county of any of the said county clerks in the vacation of the county court, of which he is clerk, the governor with the advice of the council may appoint and commission a fit and proper person to such vacant office respectively, to hold the same until the meeting of the next general court or county court, as the case may be.

48. That the governor for the time being, with the advice and consent of the council, may appoint the chancellor, and all judges and justices, the attorney general, naval officers, officers in the regular land and sea service, officers of the militia, registers of the land office, surveyors, and all other civil officers of government (assessors, constables and overseers of the roads only excepted) and may also suspend or remove any civil officer who has not a commission during good behaviour, and may suspend any militia officer for one month, and may also suspend or remove any regular officer in the land or sea service; and the governor may remove or suspend any militia officer in pursuance of the judgment of a court martial.

49. That all civil officers, of the appointment of the governor and council, who do not hold commissions during good behaviour, shall be appointed annually in the third week of November, but if any of them shall be reappointed, they may continue to act without any new commission or qualification; and every officer though not reappointed shall continue to act until the person who shall be appointed and commissioned in his stead shall be qualified.

50. That the governor, every member of the council, and every judge and justice, before they act as such, shall respectively take an oath, "that he will not, through favour, affection, or partiality, vote for any person to office, and that he will vote for such person as in his judgment and conscience he believes most fit and best qualified for the office, and that he has not made, nor will make, any promise or engagement to give his vote or interest in favour of any person."

51. That there be two registers of the land office, one upon the western, and one upon the eastern shore; that short extracts of the grants and certificates of the land on the western and eastern shores respectively be made in separate books, at the public expence, and deposited in the offices of the said registers, in such manner as shall hereafter be provided by the general assembly.

52. That every chancellor, judge, register of wills, commissioner of the loan office, attorney general, sheriff, treasurer, naval officer, register of the land office, register of the chancery court, and every clerk of the common