

years, and may be re-appointed at the end thereof; he may be removed from office by the said court for incompetency, neglect of duty, misdemeanor in office, and for such other cause as may be provided for by law.

COUNTY COURTS.

Sec. 9. The State shall be divided into eight districts, to be called inferior judicial districts, in manner and form following, to wit: Saint Mary's, Charles, and Prince George's counties shall be the first district; Anne Arundel, Howard, Calvert, and Montgomery counties shall be the second district. Frederick and Carroll counties shall be the third district; Washington and Allegany counties shall be the fourth district; Baltimore shall be the fifth district; Baltimore, Harford, and Cecil counties shall be the sixth district; Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, and Caroline counties shall be the seventh district, and Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester counties shall be the eighth district; and there shall be elected, as herein directed, one person, having the qualifications hereinafter prescribed, for each of the said judicial districts, except the fifth, to be judge thereof; the said judges shall be styled district judges, and shall respectively hold a term of their court at least twice in each year, or oftener, if required by law, in each county, composing their respective districts, and the said courts shall be called district courts for the county in which it may be held; and shall have, hold, and exercise, in the several counties of this State, all and every, the powers, authorities, and jurisdictions which the county courts of this State now have, hold, and exercise, or which shall hereafter be prescribed by laws made pursuant to this constitution.

Sec. 10. The judges of the several inferior judicial districts shall be citizens of the United States, and shall have resided five years in this State, and two years in the judicial district for which they may be respectively elected, next before the time of election, and shall reside therein while they continue to act as judges; and shall hold their offices ten years, removable for misbehaviour, on conviction in a court of law, or shall be removed by the Governor, upon the address of the General Assembly: Provided, that two-thirds of the members of each house shall concur in such address; and the said judges shall each receive a salary of \$2,000 per annum, and the same shall not be diminished during the time of their continuance in office; and no judge of any court in this State, or chancellor who has a salary fixed by law, shall receive any perquisite, fee, or reward in addition thereto, for the performance of any judicial duty.

Sec. 11. The judges of the several inferior judicial districts shall be elected by a plurality vote of the legal and qualified voters residing therein, and all elections of judges and other officers provided for under this article of the constitution shall be certified, and the returns made by the clerks of the respective counties, to the Governor, who shall issue commissions to the different persons, for the offices to which they may have been respectively elected.

Sec. 12. There shall be a clerk to each county court, who shall be elected by a plurality vote of the qualified voters of each county, who shall hold his office for the term of six years from the time of his election, and until a new election is held, subject to removal for willful neglect of duty or other misdemeanor in office, by presentment of a grand jury, and conviction of a petit jury of the county in which he shall reside; the Legislature shall provide by law for suitable annual salaries for such clerks, in lieu of all fees and perquisites as now established by law; in the event of any vacancy in the office of clerk of the county, such vacancy shall be filled by the Governor until the next general election, when said term of appointment shall expire.

BALTIMORE.

Sec. 13. There shall also be established for the city of Baltimore, one court with common law jurisdiction, to be styled "The Court of Common Pleas," which shall have civil jurisdiction in all suits where the debt or damage claimed shall not exceed five hundred dollars.

Sec. 14. There shall also be in said city another common law court, having jurisdiction over all suits where the debt or damages claimed shall exceed the sum of five hundred dollars; and each of said courts shall be vested with all powers now held and exercised by Baltimore county court as a court of law; and this last court shall be styled "The Superior Court of Baltimore city."

Sec. 15. There shall also be established a court having equity jurisdiction, for the city of Baltimore, whose style shall be "The Chancery Court of the City of Baltimore," and which shall have and exercise the equity jurisdiction now exercised by Baltimore county court sitting as a court of equity. Each of the said three courts shall consist of one judge, who shall hold his office for the term of ten years, subject to the provisions of this constitution, with regard to the election and qualification of judges and their removal from office; and the salary of each of the said judges shall be twenty-five hundred dollars per year.

Sec. 16. The Court of Common Pleas shall have jurisdiction in all appeals from magistrates' decisions in the said city, and the said appeals shall be made to the said court. And the chancery court shall have jurisdiction in all applications for the benefit of the insolvent laws of this State, and of the administration of the estates of insolvent debtors, and the supervision and control of the trustees thereof.

Sec. 17. There shall be established an Orphans' Court for Baltimore city, which shall consist of one judge who shall hold his office for the term of ten years, and who shall have all the powers now vested in the Orphans' Court of Baltimore county, subject to such regulations as the Legislature may establish for the conduct of the ordinary business of the said court by the Register of Wills of the said city; and who shall be subject to the provisions of this constitution as to the election and qualifications of judges and their removal therefrom, and the salary of the said judge shall be two thousand dollars per year.

Sec. 18. There shall also be a criminal court