

C H A P.
LXIX.

previous to his election, shall be eligible to the first branch: No person who is not of the age of twenty-five years, two years a citizen of the state, one year an inhabitant of the city, and resident at the time of election in the ward for which he is elected, shall be eligible to the second branch: No person shall be an elector of the first branch who is not thirty years of age, worth one thousand dollars (in real and personal property,) within the bounds of the corporation, three years a citizen of the state, and two years an inhabitant of the city or precincts previous to his election: No person shall be eligible for mayor, who is not of known integrity, experience and sound knowledge, five years a citizen of the United States, thirty years of age, and resident of the city at the time of his election; he shall be chosen every second year by the council of electors, who shall be on oath, or affirmation, to elect, without favour, partiality or prejudice, such person for mayor, as they in their judgment and conscience believe best qualified for the office: No person shall be eligible for recorder, who is not of sound legal knowledge, thirty years of age, and five years a citizen of the state: The five commissioners appointed as aforesaid, or a majority of them, shall appoint proper persons in each ward for judges of the first election: The first election for the council of electors, and members of the second branch of the common-council, shall be held on the first Monday in February, seventeen hundred and ninety-five, that of the latter every second, and of the former every fourth, year, for ever thereafter; but the common-council may alter the time for holding future elections: The elections shall be held by wards, the polls in each ward shall be kept open one whole day; but the time may be extended by the common-council: The resident alderman of each ward, and two discreet citizens of one of the neighbouring wards, to be named by the recorder previous to the day of election, shall be judges of the election for his ward; but in case of any alderman being absent, or unable to attend, the said citizens, named as aforesaid, shall be judges of the elections: When the polls are closed, the respective judges shall, within three days after the election, notify to the persons chosen their being duly elected, and shall deposite their respective polls of the first election with the clerk of the county court, and in all subsequent elections with the clerk of the city civil court: The council of electors shall continue for and during the space of four years; they shall be judges of the election, returns and qualifications, of their own members; not less than a majority shall be a quorum to do business; they shall choose by ballot, within ten days after being notified of their election, as many persons, qualified as aforesaid, for members of the first branch of the common-council, as there shall be wards; they shall fill up such vacancies as may from time to time happen in the first branch of the common-council, and mayorship: Vacancies happening in the second branch of the common-council, or council of electors, shall be filled up by a new election, and a warrant of election shall be issued by the speaker of the second branch, or council of electors, respectively, as the case may be, for the election of another person, of which three days notice, excluding the day of notice and day of election, shall be given: The first session of the common-council shall be held at the court-house of Baltimore county on the first Monday of March, seventeen hundred and ninety-five: Every free male person, one year a citizen of the state, and resident of the city one year next preceding the election, and entitled to vote for delegates to the general assembly, shall be entitled to vote for electors of the first branch, and for members of the second branch, of the common-council: The judges of elections shall appoint their own clerks: The election of electors, and members of the second branch of the common-council, shall be *viva voce*: Any voter, who shall attempt to vote in a ward of which he is not a resident, or who shall obstruct, by force or violence, an election, or employ treating, bribery or corruption, shall, on conviction thereof in Baltimore county and city criminal court, be punished by fine or imprisonment, and deprived of his vote for six years, and rendered ineligible for seven years to any office or appointment under the corporation; and every person who has no vote, or is a nonresident of the city, offending in like manner, shall, on like conviction thereof, be punished by fine or imprisonment; and any common-council-man, mayor, recorder, alderman, or officer of the corporation, found guilty of any of the said offences, shall be and is hereby declared expelled from his office, and shall not be eligible to the same, or any office