

of appeals, the governor shall issue a writ of election, and the qualified voters of the state, or of the district in which the vacancy may occur, shall elect a clerk of the court of appeals, to serve until the end of the term for which such clerk was elected: *Provided*, that when a vacancy shall occur from any cause, or the clerk be under charges upon information, the judges of the court of appeals shall have power to appoint a clerk *pro tem.*, to perform the duties of clerk until such vacancy shall be filled, or the clerk acquitted: *And, provided further*, that no writ of election shall issue to fill a vacancy unless the unexpired term exceed one year.

§ 14. The general assembly shall direct, by law, the mode and manner of conducting and making due returns to the secretary of state, of all elections of the judges and clerk or clerks of the court of appeals, and of determining contested elections of any of these officers.

§ 15. The general assembly shall provide for an additional judge or judges, to constitute, with the remaining judge or judges, a special court for the trial of such cause or causes as may, at any time, be pending in the court of appeals, on the trial of which a majority of the judges cannot sit, on account of interest in the event of the cause; or on account of their relationship to either party; or when a judge may have been employed in or decided the cause in the inferior court.

CONCERNING THE CIRCUIT COURTS.

§ 16. A circuit court shall be established in each county now existing, or which may hereafter be erected in this commonwealth.

§ 17. The jurisdiction of said court shall be, and remain as now established, hereby giving to the general assembly the power to change or alter it.

§ 18. The right to appeal or sue out a writ of error to the court of appeals shall remain as it now exists, until altered by law, hereby giving to the general assembly the power to change, alter, or modify said right.

§ 19. At the first session after the adoption of this constitution, the general assembly shall divide the state into twelve judicial districts, having due regard to business, territory, and population: *Provided*, that no county shall be divided.

§ 20. They shall, at the same time that the judicial districts are laid off, direct elections to be held in each district, to elect a judge for said district, and shall prescribe in what manner the election shall be conducted. The first election of judges of the circuit court shall take place on the second Monday in May, 1851; and afterwards on the first Monday in August, 1856, and on the first Monday in August in every sixth year thereafter.

§ 21. All persons qualified to vote for members of the general assembly, in each district, shall have the right to vote for judges.

§ 22. No person shall be eligible as judge of the circuit court who is not a citizen of the United States, a resident of the district for which he may be a candidate two years next preceding his election, at least thirty years of age, and who has not been a practising lawyer eight years, or whose service upon the bench of any court of record,