

returns of its members, but a contested election shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law.

Sec. 12th. A majority of each House shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as each House may prescribe.

Sec. 13th. The doors of each House and of committees of the whole shall be open, except when the business is such as ought to be kept secret.

Sec. 14th. Each House shall keep a Journal of its proceedings and cause the same to be published—the yeas and nays of the members on any question shall, at the desire of any five of them, be entered on the journal.

Sec. 15th. Neither House shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the houses shall be sitting, without the concurrent vote of two-thirds of the members present of both Houses.

Sec. 16th. The enacting clause of every bill shall be, "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland," and no law shall be enacted except by Bill.

Sec. 17th. Any bill may originate in either house of the General Assembly, and be altered, amended or rejected by the other, but no Bill shall have the force of a law until it be read on three different days in each House, unless in case of urgency three-fourths of the House, where such bill is depending, shall dispense with this rule.

Sec. 18th. No Bill shall become a law unless passed in each House by a majority of the whole number of members elected, and on the question of its final passage the ayes and noes shall be recorded.

Sec. 19th. No money shall be drawn from the Treasury of this State but in consequence of appropriations made by law, an accurate statement of the receipts and expenditure of public money shall be attached to and published with the laws after each regular session of the General Assembly.

Sec. 20th. No divorce shall be granted by the General Assembly, nor any tax or other burden be levied on the persons or property of the people, for the support of any religious sect or denomination.

Sec. 21st. No loans shall be made upon the credit of this State which are not redeemable at the pleasure of the State: except such as may be authorized by an act of Assembly, passed at one session and ratified and confirmed at the next succeeding regular session of the General Assembly.

Sec. 22nd. No extra compensation shall be granted or allowed by the General Assembly to any public officer, agent, servant or contractor after the services shall have been rendered, or the contract entered into, nor shall the salary or compensation of any public officer be increased or diminished during his term of office.

Sec. 23rd. No county now established by law, shall ever be reduced by the establishment of any new county, to a population of less than thousands, nor shall any new county be hereafter established with a population of less than thousand.

Sec. 24th. No senator or delegate shall during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office in this State, which shall have been created, or the salary or emoluments of which shall have been increased during such term: and no senator or delegate during the time he shall continue to act as such, shall be eligible to any civil office.

Sec. 25th. Each House may determine the rules of its own proceedings, punish a member for disorderly or disrespectful behavior, and with the consent of two-thirds expel a member; but no member shall be expelled a second time for the same offence.

Sec. 26th. Each House may punish by imprisonment during the session of the General Assembly, any person not a member, for disrespectful or disorderly behavior in its presence, or for obstructing any of its proceedings, or any of its officers, in the execution of their duties; provided, such imprisonment shall not at any one time exceed ten days.

Sec. 27th. The members of each House shall in all cases, except treason, felony or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the sessions of the General Assembly, and in going to and returning from the same, allowing one day for every thirty miles such member may reside from the place at which the General Assembly is convened.

Sec. 28th. No senator or delegate shall be liable in any civil action or criminal prosecution, whatever, for words spoken in debate.

Sec. 29th. The House of Delegates may inquire on the oath of witnesses into all complaints, grievances and offences, as the grand inquest of the State, and may commit any person for any crime to the public jail, there to remain until discharged by due course of law—they may examine and pass all accounts of the State relating either to the collection or expenditure of the revenue, or appoint auditors to state and adjust the same,—they may call for all public or official papers and records, and send for persons whom they may judge necessary in the course of their enquiries concerning affairs relating to the public interest, and may direct all office bonds, which shall be made payable to the State, to be sued for any breach of duty.

Sec. 30th. In case of the death, disqualification, refusal to act, expulsion or removal from the county or district for which he shall have been elected, if any person shall have been chosen as a Delegate or Senator, or in case of a tie between two or more qualified persons, a warrant of election shall be issued by the Governor, or person exercising the functions of Governor for the time being, for the election of a Senator or Delegate as the case may be, to supply the vacancy, of which not less than ten days notice, exclusive of the day of notice and day of election shall be given; provided, however, that un-