he had signed it unless the general assembly, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall become a law unless he shall file the same, with his objections, in the office of the secretary of the commonwealth and give notice thereof by public proclamation within thirty days after such adjournment.

Sec 16. The governor shall have power to disapprove of any item or items of any bill making appropriations of money embracing distinct items, and the parts of the bill approved shall be the law and the item or items of appropriations disapproved shall be void unless repassed according to the rules and limitations prescribed for the passage of other bills over the executive veto.

Sec 17. The chief justice of the supreme court shall preside upon the trial of any contested election of governor or lieutenant governor and shall decide questions regarding the admissability of evidence and shall, upon request of the committee, pronounce his opinion upon other questions of law involved in the trial. The governor and lieutenant governor shall exercise the duties of their respective offices until their successors shall be duly qualified.

Sec 18. The secretary of the commonwealth shall keep a record of all official acts and proceedings of the governor and when required lay the same, with all minutes and vouchers relating thereto, before either branch of the general assembly and perform such other duties as may be enjoined upon him by law.

Sec 19. The secretary of internal affairs shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the surveyor general, subject to such changes as shall be made by law. His department shall embrace a bureau of industrial statistics and he shall discharge such duties relating to corporations, to the charitable institutions, the agricultural, manufacturing, mining, mineral, timber and other material or business interests of the state as may be prescribed by law. He shall annually, and at such other times as may be required by law, make report to the general assembly.

Sec 20. The superintendent of public instruction shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the superintendent of common schools, subject to such changes as shall be made by law.

Sec 21. The term of the secretary of internal affairs shall be four years, of the auditor general three years and of the state treasurer two years. These officers shall be chosen by the qualified electors of the state at general elections. No person elected to the office of auditor general or state treasurer shall be capable of holding the same office for two consecutive terms.

Sec 22. The present great seal of Pennsylvania shall be the seal of the state. All commissions shall be in the name and by authority of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania and be sealed with the state seal and signed by the governor.

ARTICLE V.

Judiciary.

Sec 1. The judicial power of this commonwealth shall be vested in the supreme court, in courts of common pleas, courts of oyer and terminer and general jail delivery, courts of quarter sessions of the peace, orphans' courts, magistrates' courts and in such other courts as the general assembly may from time to time establish.

Sec 2. The supreme court shall consist of seven judges, who shall be elected by the qualified electors of the state at large. They shall hold their offices for the term of twenty-one years, if they so long behave themselves, but shall not be again eligible. The judge whose commission shall first expire shall be chief justice, and thereafter each judge whose commission shall first expire shall in turn be chief justice.

Sec 3. The jurisdiction of the supreme court shall extend over the state and the judges thereof shall, by virtue of their offices, be justices of oyer and terminer and general jail delivery in the several counties; they shall have original jurisdiction in cases of injunction and where a corporation is a party defendent, of habeas corpus, of mandamus to courts of inferior jurisdiction, and of quo warranto as to all officers of the commonwealth whose jurisdiction extends over the state but shall not exercise any other original jurisdiction; they shall have appellate jurisdiction by appeal, certiorari or writ of error in all cases, as is now or may hereafter be provided by law.

Sec 4. Until otherwise directed by law, the courts of common pleas shall continue as at present established, except as herein changed; not more than four counties shall, at any time, be included in one judicial district organized for said courts.

Sec 5. Whenever a county shall contain forty thousand inhabitants it shall constitute a separate judicial district and shall elect one judge learned in the law, and the general assembly shall provide for additional judges as the business of the said districts may require. Counties containing a population less than is sufficient to constitute separate districts shall be formed into convenient single districts or, if necessary, may be attached to contiguous districts as the general assembly may provide. The office of associate judge, not learned in the law, is abolished in counties forming separate districts; but the several associate judges in office when this constitution shall be adopted shall serve for their unexpired terms.

Sec 6. In the counties of Philadelphia and Allegheny all the jurisdiction and powers now vested in the district courts and courts of common pleas, subject to such changes as may be made by this constitution or by law, shall be, in Philadelphia, vested in four, and in Allegheny in two distinct and separate courts of equal and co ordinate jurisdiction, composed of three judges each; the said courts in Philadelphia shall be designated respectively as the court of common pleas number one, number two, number three and number four, and in Allegheny as the court of common pleas number one and number two; but the number of said courts may be by law increased, from time to time, and shall be in like manner designated by successive numbers; the number of judges in any of said courts, or in any county where the establishment of an additional court may be authorized by law, may be increased from time to time; and whenever such increase shall amount to three, such three judges shall compose a distinct and separate court as aforesaid, which shall be numbered as aforesaid. In Philadelphia all suits shall be instituted in the said courts of common pleas without designating the number of said court, and the several courts shall distribute and apportion the business among them in such manner as shall be provided by rules of court, and each court to which any suit shall be thus assigned shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof, subject to change of venue, as shall be provided by law. In Allegheny each court shall have exclusive jurisdiction of all proceedings at law and in equity commenced therein, subject to change of venue as may be provided by law.

Sec 7. For Philadelphia there shall be one prothonotary's office and one prothonotary for all said courts, to be appointed by the judges of said courts, and to hold office for three years, subject to removal by a majority of said judges; the said prothonotary shall appoint such assistants as may be necessary and authorized by said courts, and he and his assistants shall receive fixed salaries, to be determined by law and paid by said county; all fees collected in said office, except such as may be law due to the commonwealth, shall be paid by the prothonotary into the county treasury. Each court shall have its separate dockets, except the judgment docket, which shall contain the judgments and liens of all the said courts, as is or may be directed by law.

Sec 8. The said courts in the counties of Philadelphia and Allegheny respectively shall, from time to time, in turn, detail one or more of their judges to hold the courts of oyer and terminer and the courts of quarter sessions of the peace of said counties in such manner as may be directed by law.

Sec 9. Judges of the courts of common pleas learned in the law shall be judges of the courts of oyer and terminer, quarter sessions of the peace and general jail delivery and of the orphans' court, and within their respective districts shall be justices of the peace as to criminal matters.

Sec 10. The judges of the courts of common pleas, within their respective counties, shall have power to issue writs of certiorari to justices of the peace and other inferior courts not of record, and to cause their proceeding to be brought before them and right and justice to be done.

Sec 11. Except as otherwise provided in this constitution, justices of the peace or aldermen shall be elected in the several wards, districts, boroughs and townships at the time of the election of constables, by the qualified electors thereof, in such manner as shall be directed by law and shall be commissioned by the governor for a term of five years. No township, ward, district or borough shall elect more than two justices of the peace or aldermen without the consent of a majority of the qualified electors within such township, ward or borough; no person shall be elected to such office unless he shall have resided within the township, borough, ward or district for one year next preceding his election. In cities containing over fifty thousand inhabitants not more than one alderman shall be elected in each ward or district.

Sec 12. In Philadelphia there shall be established, for each thirty thousand inhabitants, one court, not of record, of police and civil causes, with jurisdiction not exceeding one hundred dollars; such courts shall be held by magistrates whose term of office shall be five years and they shall be elected on general ticket by the qualified voters at large; and in the election of the said magistrates no voter shall vote for more than two-thirds of the number of persons to be elected, when more than one are to be chosen; they shall be compensated only by fixed salaries, to be paid by said county, and shall exercise such jurisdiction, civil and criminal, except as herein provided, as is now exercised by aldermen, subject to such changes, not involving an increase of civil jurisdiction or conferring political duties, as may be made by law. In Philadelphia the office of alderman is abolished.

Sec 13. All fees, fines and penalties in said courts shall be paid into the county treasury.

Sec 14. In all cases of summary conviction in this commonwealth, or of judgment in suit for a penalty before a magistrate or court not of record, either party may appeal to such court of record as may be prescribed by law, upon allowance of the appellate court or judge thereof, upon cause shown.

Sec 15. All judges required to be learned in the law, except the judges of the supreme court, shall be elected by the qualified electors of the respective districts over which they are to preside and shall hold their offices for the period of ten years, if they shall so long behave themselves well; but for any reasonable cause, which shall not be sufficient ground for impeachment, the governor may remove any of them on the address of two-thirds of each house of the general assembly.

Sec 16. Whenever two judges of the supreme court are to be chosen for the same term of service, each voter shall vote for one only, and when three are to be chosen he shall vote for no more than two; candidates highest in vote shall be declared elected.

Sec 17. Should any two or more judges of the supreme court, or any two or more judges of the court of common pleas for the same district, be elected at the same time, they shall, as soon after the election as convenient, cast lots for priority of commission and certify the result to the governor, who shall issue their commissions in accordance therewith.

Sec 18. The judges of the supreme court and the judges of the several courts of common pleas, and all other judges required to be learned in the law, shall, at stated times, receive for their services an adequate compensation, which shall be fixed by law and paid by the state. They shall receive no other compensation, fees or perquisites of office for their services from any source nor hold any other office of profit under the United States, this state or any other state.

Sec 19. The judges of the supreme court, during their continuance in office, shall reside within this commonwealth; and the other judges, during their continuance in office, shall reside within the districts for which they shall be respectively elected.

Sec 20. The several courts of common pleas, besides the powers herein conferred, shall have and exercise within their respective districts, subject to such changes as may be made by law, such chancery powers as are now vested by law in the several courts of common pleas of this commonwealth, or as may hereafter be conferred upon them by law.

Sec 21. No duties shall be imposed by law upon the supreme court or any of the judges thereof, except such as are judicial, nor shall any of the judges thereof exercise any power of appointment except as herein provided. The court of nisi prius is hereby abolished and no court of original jurisdiction to be presided over by any one or more of the supreme court shall be established.

Sec 22. In every county wherein the population shall exceed one hundred and fifty thousand the general assembly shall, and in any other county may, establish a separate orphans' court, to consist of one or more judges who shall be learned in the law, which court shall exercise all the jurisdiction and powers now vested in, or which may hereafter be conferred upon, the orphans' courts, and thereupon the jurisdiction of the judges of the court of common pleas within such county, in orphans' court proceedings, shall cease and determine; in any county in which a separate orphans' court shall be established the register of wills shall be clerk of such court and subject to its direction in all matters pertaining to his office; he may appoint assistant clerks, but only with the consent and approval of said court. All accounts filed with him as register or as clerk of the said separate orphans' court shall be audited by the court without expense to parties, except where all parties in interest in a pending proceeding shall nominate an auditor whom the court may, in its discretion, appoint. In every county orphans' courts shall possess all the powers and jurisdiction of a register's court, and separate registers' courts are hereby abolished.

Sec 23. The style of all process shall be "The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania." All prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and conclude against the peace and dignity of the same.

Sec 24. In all cases of felonious homicide, and in such other criminal cases as may be provided for by law, the accused, after conviction and sentence, may remove the indictment, record and all proceedings to the supreme court for review.

Sec 25. Any vacancy happening by death, resignation or otherwise, in any court of record, shall be filled by appointment by the governor, to continue till the first Monday of January next succeeding the first general election which shall occur three or more months after the happening of such vacancy.

Sec 26. All laws relating to courts shall be general and of uniform operation and the organization, jurisdiction and powers of all courts of the same class or grade, so far as regulated by law, and the force and effect of the process and judgments of such courts shall be uniform; and the general assembly is hereby prohibited from creating other courts to exercise the powers vested by this constitution in the judges of the courts of common pleas and orphans' courts.

Sec 27. The parties, by agreement filed, may, in any civil case, dispense with trial by jury, and submit the decision of such case to the court having jurisdiction thereof, and such court shall hear and determine the same; and the judgment thereon shall be subject to writ of error as in other cases.

ARTICLE VI.

Impeachment and Removal from Office.

Sec 1. The house of representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment.

Sec 2. All impeachments shall be tried by the senate; when sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation; no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

Sec 3. The governor and all other civil officers shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office, but judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit under this commonwealth; the person accused, whether convicted or acquitted, shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment according to law.

Sec 4. All officers shall hold their offices on the condition that they behave themselves well while in office and shall be removed on conviction of misbehavior in office or of any infamous crime. Appointed officers other than judges of the courts of record and the superintendent of public instruction, may be removed at the pleasure of the power by which they shall have been appointed. All officers elected by the people, except governor, lieutenant governor, members of the general assembly and judges of the courts of record, learned in the law, shall be removed by the governor for reasonable cause, after due notice and full hearing, on the address of two-thirds of the senate.

ARTICLE VII.

Oath of Office.

Sec 1. Senators and representatives and all judicial, state and county officers, shall, before entering on the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, obey and defend the constitution of the United States and the constitution of this commonwealth, and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity; that I have not paid or contributed, or promised to pay or contribute, either directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing, to procure my nomination or election (or appointment), except for necessary and proper expenses expressly authorized by law; that I have not knowingly violated any election law of this commonwealth, or procured it to be done by others in my behalf; that I will not knowingly receive, directly, or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing for the performance or nonperformance of any act or duty pertaining to my office, other than the compensation allowed by law."

The foregoing oath shall be administered by some person authorized to administer oaths, and in the case of state officers and judges of the supreme court, shall be filed in the office of the secretary of the commonwealth, and in the case of other judicial and county officers, in the office of the prothonotary of the county in which the same is taken; any person refusing to take said oath or affirmation shall forfeit his office, and any person who shall be convicted of having sworn or affirmed falsely, or of having violated said oath or affirmation, shall be guilty of perjury and be forever disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit within this commonwealth. The oath to the members of the senate and house of representatives shall be administered by one of the judges of the supreme court or of a court of common pleas, learned in the law, in the hall of the house to which the members shall be elected.

ARTICLE VIII.

Suffrage and Elections.

Sec. 1. Every male citizen twenty-one years of age, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections:

First. He shall have been a citizen of the United States at least one month.

Second. He shall have resided in the state one year (or if, having previously been a qualified elector or native born citizen of the state, he shall have removed therefrom and returned, then six months) immediately preceding the election.

Third. He shall have resided in the election district where he shall offer to vote at least two months immediately preceding the election.

Fourth. If twenty-two years of age or upwards, he shall have paid within two years a state or county tax, which shall have been assessed at least two months and paid at least one month before the election.

Sec 2. The general election shall be held annually on the Tuesday next following the first Monday of November, but the general assembly may by law fix a different day, two-thirds of all the members of each house consenting thereto.

Sec 3. All elections for city, ward, borough and township officers for regular terms of service, shall be held on the third Tuesday of February.

Sec 4. All elections by the citizens shall be by ballot. Every ballot voted shall be numbered in the order in which it shall be received, and the number recorded by the election officers on the list of voters, opposite the name of the elector who presents the ballot. Any elector may write his name upon his ticket, or cause the same to be written thereon and attested by a citizen of the district. The election officers shall be sworn or affirmed not to disclose how any elector shall have voted unless required to do so as witnesses in a judicial proceeding.

Sec 5. Electors shall in all cases except treason, felony and breach or surety of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance on elections and in going to and returning therefrom.

Sec 6. Whenever any of the qualified electors of this commonwealth shall be in actual military service, under a requisition from the President of the United States or by the authority of this commonwealth, such electors may exercise the right of suffrage in all elections by the citizens, under such regulations as are or shall be prescribed by law, as fully as if they were present at their usual places of election.

Sec 7. All laws regulating the holding of elections by the citizens or for the registration of electors shall be uniform throughout the state, but no elector shall be deprived of the privilege of voting by reason of his name not being registered.

Sec 8. Any person who shall give, or promise or offer to give to an elector, any money, reward or other valuable consideration for his vote at an election or for withholding the same, or who shall give or promise to give such consideration to any other person or party such elector's vote, or for the withholding thereof, and any elector who shall receive or agree to receive, for himself or for another, any money, reward or other valuable consideration for his vote at an election, or for withholding the same, shall thereby forfeit the right to vote at such election, and any elector whose right to vote shall be challenged for such cause before the election officers shall be required to swear or affirm that the matter of the challenge is untrue before his vote shall be received.

Sec 9. Any person who shall, while a candidate for office, be guilty of bribery, fraud or willful violation of any election law, shall be forever disqualified from holding an office of trust or profit in this commonwealth; and any person convicted of willful violation of the election laws, shall, in addition to any penalties provided by law, be deprived of the right of suffrage absolutely for a term of four years.

Sec 10. In trials of contested elections, and in proceedings for the investigation of elections, no person shall be permitted to withhold his testimony upon the ground that it may criminate himself or subject him to public infamy; but such testimony shall not afterwards be used against him in any judicial proceeding, except for perjury in giving such testimony.

Sec 11. Townships and wards of cities or boroughs shall form or be divided into election districts of compact and contiguous territory, in such manner as the court of quarter sessions of the city or county in which the same are located may direct; but districts in cities of over one hundred thousand inhabitants shall be divided by the courts of quarter sessions having jurisdiction therein whenever at the next preceding election more than two hundred and fifty votes shall have been polled therein; and other election districts whenever the court of the proper county shall be of opinion that the convenience of the electors and the public interests will be promoted thereby.

Sec 12. All elections by persons in a representative capacity shall be viva voce.

Sec 13. For the purpose of voting, no person shall be deemed to have gained a residence by reason of his presence, or lost it by reason of his absence while employed in the service, either civil or military, of this state or of the United States, nor while engaged in the navigation of the waters of the state or of the United states, or on the high seas, nor while a student of any institution of learning, nor while kept in any poor house or any asylum at public expense, nor while confined in public prison.

Sec 14. District election boards shall consist of a judge and two inspectors, who shall be chosen annually by the citizens. Each elector shall have the right to vote for the judge and one inspector, and each inspector shall appoint one clerk. The first election board for any new district shall be selected, and vacancies in election boards filled as shall be provided by law. Election officers shall be privileged from arrest upon days of election and while engaged in making up and transmitting returns, except upon warrant of a court of record or judge thereof for an election fraud, for felony, or for wanton breach of the peace. In cities they may claim exemption from jury duty during their terms of service.

Sec 15. No person shall be qualified to serve as an election officer who shall hold, or shall within two months have held any office, appointment, or employment in or under the government of the United States, or of this state, or of any city or county, or of any municipal board, commission, or trust in any city, save only justices of the peace and aldermen, notaries public, and persons in the militia service of the state; nor shall any election officer be eligible to any civil office to be filled at an election at which he shall serve, save only to such subordinate municipal or local offices below the grade of city or county offices as shall be designated by general law.

Sec 16. The courts of common pleas of the several counties of the commonwealth shall have power within their respective jurisdictions to appoint overseers of election to supervise the proceedings of election officers and to make report to the court as may be required; such appointments to be made for any district in a city or county, upon petition of five citizens, lawful voters of such election district, setting forth that such appointment is a reasonable precaution to secure the purity and fairness of elections; overseers shall be two in number for an election district, shall be residents therein, and shall be persons qualified to serve upon election boards, and in each case members of different political parties; whenever the members of an election board shall differ in opinion, the overseers, if they shall be agreed thereon, shall decide the question of difference; in appointing overseers of election, all the law judges of the proper court, able to act at the time, shall concur in the appointments made.

Sec 17. The trial and determination of contested elections of electors of president and vice-president, members of the general assembly, and of all public officers, whether state, judicial, municipal or local, shall be by the courts of law, or by one or more of the law judges thereof; the general assembly shall, by general law, designate the courts and judges by whom the several classes of election contests shall be tried, and regulate the manner of trial and all matters incident thereto; but no such law assigning jurisdiction, or regulating its exercise, shall apply to any contest arising out of an election held before its passage.

ARTICLE IX.

Taxation and Finance.

Sec. 1. All taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax, and shall be levied and collected under general laws; but the general assembly may, by general laws, exempt from taxation public property used for public purposes, actual places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, and institutions of purely public charity.

Sec 2. All laws exempting property from taxation, other than the property above enumerated, shall be void.

Sec 3. The power to tax corporations and corporate property shall not be surrendered or suspended by any contract or grant to which the state shall be a party.

Sec 4. No debt shall be created by or on behalf of the state except to supply casual deficiencies of revenue, repel invasion, suppress insurrection, defend the state in war, or to pay existing debt, and the debt created to supply deficiencies in revenue shall never exceed in the aggregate at any one time one million of dollars.

Sec 5. All laws authorizing the borrowing of money by and on behalf of the state shall specify the purpose for which the money is to be used, and the money so borrowed shall be used for the purpose specified and no other.

Sec 6. The credit of the commonwealth shall not be pledged or loaned to any individual, company, corporation or association.

Sec 7. The general assembly shall not authorize any county, city, borough, township or incorporated district to become a stockholder in any company, association or corporation, or to obtain or to appropriate money foror to loan its credit to any corporation, institution or individual.

Sec 8. The debt of any county, city, borough, township, school district or other municipality, or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any municipality or district incur any new debt or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property without the assent of the electors thereof, at a public election, in such manner as shall be provided by law, but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum in the aggregate at any time upon such valuation.

Sec 9. The commonwealth shall not assume the debt, or any part thereof, of any city, county, borough or township, unless such debt shall have been contracted to enable the state to repel invasion, suppress domestic insurrection, defend itself in time of war, or to assist the state in the discharge of any portion of its present indebtedness.

Sec 10. Any county, township, school district or other municipality incurring any indebtedness, shall, at or before the time of so doing, provide for the collection of an annual tax sufficient to pay the interest and also the principal thereof within thirty years.

Sec 11. To provide for the payment of the present state debt and any additional debt contracted as aforesaid, the general assembly shall continue and maintain the sinking fund sufficient to pay the accruing interest on such debt, and annually to reduce the principal thereof by a sum not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars; the said sinking fund shall consist of the proceeds of the sales of the public works or any part thereof, and of the income or proceeds of the sale of any stocks owned by the commonwealth, together with other funds and resources that may be designated by law, and shall be increased from time to time by assigning to it any part of the taxes or other revenues of the state not required for the ordinary and current expenses of government; and unless in case of war, invasion or insurrection, no part of the said sinking fund shall be used or applied otherwise than in the extinguishment of the public debt.

Sec 12. The moneys of the state, over and above the necessary reserve, shall be used in the payment of the debt of the state, either directly or through the sinking fund, and the moneys of the sinking fund shall never be invested in or loaned upon the security of anything except the bonds of the United States or of this state.

Sec 13. The moneys held as necessary reserve shall be limited by law to the amount required for current expenses, and shall be secured and kept as may be provided by law. Monthly statements shall be published showing the amount of such moneys, where the same are deposited, and how secured.

Sec 14. The making of profit out of the public moneys, or using the same for any purpose not authorized by law, by any officer of the state or member or officer of the general assembly, shall be a misdemeanor, and shall be punished as may be provided by law, but part of such punishment shall be a disqualification to hold office for a period of not less than five years.

ARTICLE X.

Education.

Sec 1. The general assembly shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of public schools, wherein all the children of this commonwealth above the age of six years, may be educated, and shall appropriate at least one million dollars each year for that purpose.

Sec 2. No money raised for the support of the public schools of the commonwealth shall be appropriated to or used for the support of any sectarian school.

Sec 3. Women twenty-one years of age and upwards shall be eligible to any office under the school laws of this state.

ARTICLE XI.

Militia.

Sec 1. The freemen of this commonwealth shall be armed, organized and disciplined for its defense when and in such manner as may be directed by law. The general assembly shall provide for maintaining the militia by appropriations from the treasury of the commonwealth, and may exempt from military service persons having conscientious scruples against bearing arms.

ARTICLE XII.

Public Officers.

Sec 1. All officers whose selection is not provided for in this constitution shall be elected or appointed as may be directed by law.

Sec 2. No member of congress from this state, nor any person holding or exercising any office or appointment of trust or profit under the United States, shall at the same time hold or exercise any office in this state to which a salary, fees or perquisites shall be attached. The general assembly may by law declare what offices are incompatible.

Sec 3. Any person who shall fight a duel or send a challenge for that purpose, or be aider or abettor in fighting a duel, shall be deprived of the right of holding any office of honor or profit in this state, and may be otherwise punished as shall be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE XIII.

New Counties.

Sec 1. No new county shall be established which shall reduce any county to less than four hundred square miles, or to less than twenty thousand inhabitants; nor shall any county be formed of less area, or containing a less population, nor shall any line thereof pass within ten miles of the county seat of any county proposed to be divided.

ARTICLE XIV.

County Officers.

Sec 1. County officers shall consist of sheriffs, coroners, prothonotaries, registers of wills, recorders of deeds, commissioners, treasurers, surveyors, auditors, or controllers, clerks of the courts, district attorneys and such others as may from time to time be established by law; and no sheriff or treasurer shall be eligible for the term next succeding the one to which he may be elected.

Sec 2. County officers shall be elected at the general elections, and shall hold their offices for the term of three years, beginning on the first Monday of January next after their election, and until their successors shall be duly qualified; all vacancies not otherwise provided for shall be filled in such manner as may be provided by law.

Sec 3. No person shall be appointed to any office within any county who shall not have been a citizen and an inhabitant therein one year next before his appointment, if the county shall have been so long erected, but if it shall not have been so long erected, then within the limits of the county or counties out of which it shall have been taken.

Sec 4. Prothonotaries, clerks of the courts, recorders of deeds, registers of wills, county surveyors and sheriffs shall keep their offices in the county town of the county in which they respectively shall be officers.

Sec 5. The compensation of county officers shall be regulated by law, and all county officers who are or may be salaried shall pay all fees which they may be authorized to receive into the treasury of the county or state, as may be directed by law. In counties containing over one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants all county officers shall be paid by salary, and the salary of any such officer and his clerks, heretofore paid by fees, shall not exceed the aggregate amount of fees earned during his term and collected by or for him.

Sec 6. The general assembly shall provide by law for the strict accountability of all county, township and borough officers, as well for the fees which may be collected by them as for all public or municipal moneys which may be paid to them.

Sec 7. Three county commissioners and three county auditors shall be elected in each county where such officers ars chosen, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and every third year thereafter; and in the election of said officers each qualified elector shall vote for no more than two persons, and the three persons having the highest number of votes shall be elected; any casual vacancy in the office of county commissioner or county auditor shall be filled by the court of common pleas of the county in which such vacancy shall occur, by the appointment of an elector of the proper county who shall have voted for the commissioner or auditor whose place is to be filled.

ARTICLE XV.

Cities and City Charters.

Sec 1. Cities may be chartered whenever a majority of the electors of any town or borough having a population of at least ten thousand shall vote at any general election in favor of the same.

Sec 2. No debt shall be created or liability incurred by any municipal commission, except in pursuance of an appropriation previously made therefor by the municipal government.

Sec 3. Every city shall create a sinking fund, which shall be inviolably pledged for the payment of its funded debt.

ARTICLE XVI.

Private Corporations.

Sec 1. All existing charters or grants of special or exclusive privileges, under which a bona fide organization shall not have taken place and business commenced at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall thereafter have no validity.

Sec 2. The general assembly shall not remit the forfeiture of the charter of any corporation now existing or alter or amend the same, or pass any other general or special law for the benefit of such corporation except on the condition that such corporation shall thereafter hold its charter subject to the provisions of this constitution.

Sec 3. The exercise of the right of eminent domain shall never be abridged or so construed as to prevent the general assembly from taking the property of incorporated companies, and subjecting them to public use, the same as the property of individuals; and the exercise of the police power of the state shall never be abridged or so construed as to permit corporations to conduct their business in such manner as to infringe the equal rights of individuals or the general well being of the state.

Sec 4. In all elections for directors or managers of a corporation each member or shareholder may cast the whole number of his votes for one candidate, or distribute them upon two or more candidates, as he may prefer.

Sec 5. No foreign corporation shall do any business in this state without having one or more known places of business, and an authorized agent or agents in the same, upon whom process may be served.

Sec 6. No corporation shall engage in any business other than that expressly authorized in its charter, nor shall it take or hold any real estate except such as may be necessary and proper for its legitimate business.

Sec 7. No corporation shall issue stocks or bonds except for money or labor done, or money or property actually received; and all fictitious increase of stock or indebtedness in corporations shall not be made except in pursuance of general law, nor without the consent of the persons holding the larger amount in value of the stock first obtained at a meeting to be held after sixty days' notice given in pursuance to law.

Sec 8. Municipal and other corporations and individuals invested with the privilege of taking private property for public use shall make compensation for property taken, injured or destroyed by the construction or enlargement of their works, highways or improvements, which compensation shall be paid or secured before such taking, injury or destruction. The general assembly is not by prohibited from depriving any person of an appeal from any preliminary