

the mayor, recorder and aldermen, of the said city, or any three of them, be judges of the election, appoint the place in the said city for holding the same, and may adjourn from day to day(r), if necessary, till the same be finished, so that the whole election shall be concluded in four days, and shall make return thereof(s), under their hands, to the chancellor of this state for the time being. But the inhabitants of the said city shall not be entitled to vote for delegates for Anne-Arundel county(t). *That the city of Annapolis shall constitute the sixth election district of Anne-Arundel county for all elections hereafter to be held for sheriffs, electors of president and vice-president, and electors of the senate of this state, and for a member of congress, which said elections shall be held by the mayor, recorder, and aldermen of the said city, or any three or more of them, at such place within the said city as they may appoint. That the mayor, recorder, and aldermen of said city, or a majority of them, authorised to hold elections as aforesaid, shall make return under their hands and seals, within the time prescribed by law, of the votes taken by them at any election held in virtue of this act, to the presiding judges of the other election districts of said county. That the presiding judges of the said election districts, in making out their returns, shall compute and receive as a part of the votes taken at any such election, the returns made to them by virtue of this act, by the said mayor, recorder and aldermen(u).*

5. *That every free white male citizen of this state, above twenty-one years of age, and no other(v), having resided twelve months within this state, and six months in the city of Baltimore, next preceding the election at which he offers to vote(v), shall have a right of suffrage, and shall vote by ballot(w) in the election of the said city, in districts(x). and elect, by a majority of votes, two delegates to the general assembly of this state, qualified as aforesaid(y); but if the said inhabitants of the city, shall so decrease, as that the number of persons having a right of suffrage therein shall have been, for the space of seven years successively, less than one half of the number of voters in some one county in this state, such city thenceforward shall cease to send two delegates or representatives to the house of delegates, until the said city shall have one half of the number of voters in some one county in this state. And for the purpose of holding all future elections for delegates, the city of Baltimore shall be laid off into eight districts. The number and limits of election districts in the city of Baltimore shall always be the same as the wards therein(x).*

(r) In the original the words "as aforesaid" were used, referring to the manner of holding the election, and adjourning from day to day, prescribed in the third section, in the terms which are now substituted on account of the alteration in that section, which did not extend to the city of Annapolis.

(s) The words "as aforesaid," were used in the original, and referred also to the third section as it originally stood, by which the sheriff was directed to make his return, under his hand, in the terms which are now substituted on account of the alteration in that section which did not extend to the city of Annapolis.

(t) The words in the original, "unless they have a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county distinct from the city," are omitted, the right of such persons having been taken away by November 1809, ch. 38, confirmed by 1810, ch. 49.

(u) This part of the section is added as having been made a part of the constitution by the act of 1816, ch. 252, confirmed by 1817, ch. 149, as referred to in note (k) to the second section.

(v) For the omission of the former property qualification, and for the residence required, reference may be made to notes (a) and (b) to section 2.

(w) The manner of electing *visa voce* was altered by November 1809, ch. 83, confirmed by 1810, ch. 33, to voting by ballot.

(x) By the act of 1798, ch. 115, confirmed by 1799, ch. 48, the city of Baltimore was to be laid off into eight districts, and the last part of the section was made a part of the constitution by the act of 1817, ch. 51, confirmed by 1818, ch. 87.

(y) The words "qualified as aforesaid," originally referred to the second section, and they are retained as still referring to the same section as altered. This will include the abolition of the property qualification effected by the act of November 1809, ch. 198, confirmed by 1810, ch. 18, and also the exception of members of congress, &c. under the act of 1791, ch. 80, confirmed by November 1792, ch. 22, as inserted in section 37.