

52. That every chancellor, judge, register of wills, commissioner of the loan office(k), sheriff, treasurer, naval officer, register of the land-office, register of the chancery court, and every clerk of the common law courts, surveyor, and auditor of public accounts, before he acts as such, shall take an oath, or *affirmation*(l), that he will not, directly or indirectly, receive any fee or reward for doing his office of —, but what is or shall be allowed by law, nor will, directly or indirectly, receive the profits, or any part of the profits, of any office held by any other person, and that he does not hold the same office in trust or for the benefit of any other person.

53. That if any governor, chancellor, judge, register of wills(m), register of the land-office, commissioner of the loan-office, register of the chancery court, or any clerk of the common law courts, treasurer, naval officer, sheriff, surveyor, or auditor of public accounts, shall receive, directly or indirectly, at any time, the profits, or any part of the profits, of any office held by any other person during his acting in the office to which he is appointed, his election, appointment and commission, on conviction in a court of law by the oath, or *affirmation*(n), of two credible witnesses, shall be void, and he shall suffer the punishment for wilful and corrupt perjury, or be banished this state for ever, or disqualified for ever from holding any office or place of trust or profit, as the court may adjudge.

54. That if any person shall give any bribe, present or reward, or any promise, or any security for the payment or delivery of any money, or any other thing, to obtain or procure a vote to be governor, senator, delegate to congress or assembly, member of the council, or judge, or to be appointed to any of the said offices, or to any office of profit or trust, now created, or hereafter to be created, in this state, the person giving, and the person receiving the same, on conviction in a court of law, shall be for ever disqualified to hold any office of trust or profit in this state.

55. That every person appointed to any office of profit or trust shall, before he enters on the execution thereof, take the following oath, or *affirmation*(o), to wit: "I, A. B. do swear, (or, I, A. B. do *affirm*)(o), that I do not hold myself bound in allegiance to the king of Great Britain, and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the state of Maryland;" and shall also subscribe a declaration of his belief in the christian religion.

56. That there shall be a court of appeals, composed of persons of integrity, and sound judgment in the law, whose judgment shall be final and conclusive in all cases of appeal from the county courts(p), court of chancery, and court of admiralty, and the same shall be composed of the chief judges of the several judicial districts of the state(q); which said court of appeals shall hold, use and exercise, all and singular the powers, authorities and jurisdictions, heretofore held, used and exercised, by the court of appeals of this state, and also the appellate jurisdiction heretofore used and exercised by the general court(r); and the said court

(k) The attorney general is omitted for the reasons stated in note (g) to the 48th section.

(l) See the note to the 18th section.

(m) For the omission of the attorney general, before included, see note(g) to the 48th section.

(n) See note (w) to the 39th section.

(o) See the note to the 18th section.

(p) A similar provision was contained in the original section as to the general court, which was abolished by the act of 1804, ch. 55, confirmed by 1805, ch. 16, and the county courts are substituted, an appeal being allowed from their judgments to the court of appeals.

(q) This addition to the original section is made under the act of 1804, ch. 55, confirmed by 1805, ch. 16.

(r) Every part of the constitution which related to the court of appeals and the general court, or the judges thereof, which had been established by this section, was annulled by the same act of 1804, ch. 55, confirmed by 1805, ch. 16.