

SEC 39. The General Assembly shall grant no charter for banking purposes, nor renew any banking corporation now in existence, except upon condition that the stockholders shall be liable to the amount of their respective share or shares of stock in such banking institution for all its debts and liabilities upon note, bill, or otherwise; the books, papers, and accounts of all banks shall be open to inspection under such regulations as may be prescribed by law.

Banks  
1853, c 441.  
1854, c 152.

Books to be  
open.

SEC. 40. The General Assembly shall enact no law authorizing private property to be taken for public use without just compensation as agreed upon between the parties, or awarded by a jury, being first paid or tendered to the party entitled to such compensation.

Compensation  
for property  
taken for public  
use  
46 Md 1, 37 Md  
537, 34 Md 386,  
4 G & J. 1, 9 G

& J 479, 2 G 20, 5 G 383, 2 Bl 99, 678, 3 Bl 95, 386, 453, 1 Md Ch 107, 248, 1 Md 553, 5 Md 237, 314, 7 Md 500, 10 Md 544, 14 Md 444, 15 Md 199, 240, 22 Md 229, 1853, c 179

SEC 41 Any citizen of this State who shall after the adoption of this Constitution, either in or out of the State, fight a duel with deadly weapons, or send or accept a challenge so to do, or who shall act as a second, or knowingly aid or assist in any manner those offending, shall, ever thereafter, be incapable of holding any office of profit or trust under this State, unless relieved from the disability by an act of the legislature.

Duellists  
ineligible

SEC 42 The General Assembly shall pass laws necessary for the preservation of the purity of elections.

Purity of  
elections

SEC 43 The property of the wife shall be protected from the debts of the husband

Wife's property  
protected  
12 Md 294, 19  
Md 9, 1853, c  
245, 335

SEC. 44. Laws shall be passed by the General Assembly, to protect from execution a reasonable amount of the property of the debtor, not exceeding in value the sum of five hundred dollars.

Exemption  
laws

SEC 45 The General Assembly shall provide a simple and uniform system of charges in the offices of clerks of courts and registers of wills, in the counties of this State and the city of Baltimore, and for the collection thereof, provided the amount of compensation to any of the said officers in the various counties shall not exceed the sum of three thousand dollars a year, and in the city of Baltimore thirty-five hundred dollars a year, over and above office expenses and compensation to assistants; and provided further, that such compensation of clerks, registers, assistants, and office expenses shall always be paid out of the fees or receipts of the offices respectively

Compensation  
to clerks and  
registers  
1852, c 308

SEC 46 The General Assembly shall have power to receive from the United States any grant or donation of land, money, or securities for any purpose designated by the United States, and shall administer or distribute the same according to the conditions of the said grant.

Legislature  
may receive  
land from U S.  
37 Md 125.

SEC 47 The General Assembly shall make provisions for all cases of contested elections of any of the officers not herein provided for

Contested  
elections  
17 Md 309  
1853, c 244.  
43 Md 572

SEC. 48 Corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special act, except for municipal purposes, and except in cases where no general laws exist providing for the creation of corporations of the same general character as the corporation proposed to be created; and any act of incorporation passed in violation of this section shall be void. And as soon as practicable, after the adoption of this Constitution, it shall be the duty of the governor to appoint three persons learned in the law, whose duty it shall be to prepare drafts of general laws providing for the creation of corporations in such cases as may be proper, and for all other cases where a general law can be made; and for revising and amending, so far as may be necessary or expedient, the general laws which may be in existence on the first day of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, providing for the creation of corporations and for other purposes; and such drafts of laws shall by said commissioners be submitted to the General Assembly at its first meeting for its action thereon; and each of said commissioners shall receive a compensation of five hundred dollars for his services as such commissioner.

Corporations to  
be formed under  
general laws  
1852, c 231, 1853,  
c 320, 1854, c  
147, 1867, c 379,  
44 Md 133, 39  
Md 164, 37 Md.  
537, 34 Md 503

Commissioners  
to revise laws