

Art. 144. In order that no inconvenience may result to the public service from the taking effect of this constitution, no office shall be superseded thereby; but the laws of the state relative to the duties of the several officers, executive, judicial, and military, shall remain in full force, though the same be contrary to this constitution, and the several duties shall be performed by the respective officers of the state, according to the existing laws, until the organization of the government under this constitution, and the entering into office of the new officers to be appointed under said government, and no longer.

Art. 145. Appointments to office by the executive under this constitution, shall be made by the governor to be elected under its authority.

Art. 146. The legislature shall provide for the removal of all causes now pending in the supreme court or other courts of the state under the constitution of 1845, to courts created by or under this constitution.

Art. 147. The time of service of all officers chosen by the people, at the first election under this constitution, shall terminate as though the election had been holden on the first Monday of November, 1851, and they had entered on the discharge of their duties at the time designated therein. The first class senators designated in article 17 shall hold their seats until the day of the closing of the general elections in November, 1853, and the second class until the day of the closing of the general elections in November, 1855.

Art. 148. The first election for judges of the supreme court shall be held on the first Monday of April next (1853), and they shall enter into office on the first Monday of May, 1853.

Art. 149. The first term of service of the district attorneys and the clerks of the inferior courts to be ordered and established under this constitution, shall be regulated by the term of service of the first governor, so that a new election for these officers shall be held on the first Monday of November, 1855.

#### TITLE XI.

##### *Ordinance.*

Art. 150. Immediately after the adjournment of the convention, the governor shall issue his proclamation, directing the several officers of this state authorized by law to hold elections for members of the general assembly, to open and hold a poll in every parish of the state, at the places designated by law, upon the first Tuesday of November next, for the purpose of taking the sense of the good people of this state in regard to the adoption or rejection of this constitution; and it shall be the duty of said officers to receive the votes of all persons entitled to vote under the old constitution and under this constitution. Each voter shall express his opinion by depositing in a separate box, kept for that purpose, a ticket, whereon shall be written "the Constitution accepted," or "the Constitution rejected," or some such word as will distinctly convey the intention of the voter. At the conclusion of said election, which shall be conducted in every respect as the general state election is now conducted, the commissioners designated to preside over the same shall carefully examine and count each ballot so deposited, and shall forthwith make due returns thereof to the secretary of state, in conformity to the provisions of the existing law upon the subject of elections.

Art. 151. Upon the receipt of the said returns, or on the fifth Monday of November, if the returns be not sooner received, it shall be the duty of the governor, the secretary of state, the attorney-general, and the state treasurer, in the presence of all such persons as may choose to attend, to compare the votes given at the said poll for the ratification and rejection of this constitution, and if it shall appear from said returns that a majority of all the votes given is for ratifying this constitution, then it shall be the duty of the governor to make proclamation of that fact, and thenceforth this constitution shall be ordained and established as the constitution of the state of Louisiana. But whether this constitution be accepted or rejected, it shall be the duty of the governor to cause to be published in the official paper of the convention the result of the polls, showing the number of votes cast in each parish for and against the said constitution.

Art. 152. Should this constitution be accepted by the people, it shall also be the duty of the governor forthwith to issue his proclamation, declaring the present legislature, elected under the old constitution, to be dissolved, and directing the several officers of the state authorized by law to hold elections for members of the general assembly, to hold an election, at the places designated by law, upon the fourth Monday of December next, for governor, lieutenant-governor, members of the general assembly, secretary of state, attorney-general, treasurer, and superintendent of public education; and the said election shall be conducted and the returns thereof made in conformity with existing laws upon the subject of state elections.

Art. 153. The general assembly elected under this constitution shall convene at the state house, in Baton Rouge, upon the third Monday of January next after the