

An Abstract of the new form of Government established in Maryland.

- 1st The Powers of Legislation are vested in The Senate & The House of Delegates.
2. On the first Monday of Oct. 77 & so annually there shall be chosen, by Majority of Votes of Freeholders in the County, ^{for said County} 50 Acres of Land, or £30 M. personal Estate, four Delegates, ^{residing} in said County, worth or less £500 Currency.
- 3^d The Sheriff, assisted by two Justices to preserve the Peace may by adjournment from Day to Day keep the Poll open, but not longer than four Days, & must make a Return ^{to the Chancellor} to the Chancellor.
4. The Citizens of Annapolis shall choose two Delegates, but have no Vote for Delegates for Annapolis County, unless such as have 50 Acres of Land in said County.
- 5th The Inhabitants of Baltimore Town shall choose two Delegates; but if the Number of its Inhabitants shall ^{anywhere} be less or equal to equal the half of some other County in this State, they shall lose this Privilege, until they reach their proper Number.
- 6th The Corporation of Baltimore Town to preside at the Election - None of the Inhabitants to vote in the County Election; ~~It must choose~~ ^{It must choose} next to vote unless Presidents in Town to vote in the County Election.
- 7th If any Person chosen a Delegate, shall die, be disqualified, be chosen Governor or Member of the Council, The Speaker shall issue his Warrant for a new Election, of which ten Days Notice must be given.
- 8th No Business, except ^{who is to be chosen by Ballot} adjournment, shall be transacted in the House of Delegates, unless on behalf of the Members at least, together with the Speaker, ^{or his} presence.
- 9th All Money Bills shall originate in the House of Delegates - Other Bills may, & they shall have a Power to pass, reject or amend all other Bills - The House, but particularly the Committee of Grievances, may, upon the Oath of Witnesses, take Cognizance of all Crimes & Offences, may imprison & detain Criminals, until released by Law - They may, on weighty Grounds, expell their own Members, but not more than one for the same Offence - They may examine & pass all Accounts of public Money, & appoint Auditors for this Purpose - They may send for all Records & Papers that have any Relation to the Administration of Government, & call before them all Persons to give them Information concerning public Affairs.
- 10th To prevent Disputes betwixt the Senate & House of Delegates, about Money Bills, it is understood that none are to be considered as such except those whose immediate Design is to raise a Revenue for the Use of the Public - Regulations of Commerce & the incidentally producing a Revenue cannot be involved in or considered as Money Bills, & in the passing of Money Bills, the House of Delegates ought not to take any foreign Matter.
- 11th The Senate & also the House of Delegates, may commit to Prison any Person guilty of Violating their Privileges, by insulting any of the Members in the Exercise of their Duty, or any Officers of either House, or Witnesses attending the Houses, or receiving any Persons committed by any of them.