

and impartially discharge the duties of such offices. The presiding officer of the Senate shall administer such oath or affirmation to the Governor, in convention of both Houses, and the Governor shall administer the same to the Lieutenant-Governor, to the Senators, and to the Delegates in like manner. Whenever the Governor is unable to attend, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may administer the oath to him at any place, and also to the Lieutenant-Governor, Senators and Delegates in convention. Other officers may take such oath or affirmation before the Governor, Chief Justice, or any other person who may be designated by law.

SEC. 11. Treason against this State shall consist only in levying war against it, in adhering to its enemies, or giving them aid and comfort. And no person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his own confession in open Court.

SEC. 12. The Governor shall be ex-officio Superintendent of Native Affairs until otherwise provided by law.

ARTICLE V.

Amendment of the Constitution.

This Constitution may be altered whenever two-thirds of both branches of the General Assembly shall deem it necessary. In which case the alterations and amendments shall first be considered and approved by the General Assembly, with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members of each branch, and afterwards by them submitted to the people, and adopted by two-thirds of all the electors at the next biennial meeting for the election of Senators and Delegates.

Done in Convention, at Harper, in the County of Cape Palmas, by the unanimous consent of the people of the Commonwealth of Maryland in Liberia, this twenty-ninth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, and of the Independence of the State of Maryland in Liberia the first.

In witness whereof we have hereto affixed our names,

Signed,

BOSTON J. DRAYTON, *President of the Convention.*

WILLIAM A. PROUT,

WILLIAM CASSELL,

JOSEPH J. GIBSON,

ANTHONY WOOD,

JOHN E. MOLTON,

PHILIP GROCE,

JOHN B. BOWEN,

DANIEL F. WILSON.

THOMAS MASON, *Secretary of the Convention.*

An Act Ratifying the Treaty agreed to by the Commissioners on the part of the State of Maryland in Liberia, and the Maryland Colonization Society.

Whereas, on the 14th day of February, 1853, the people of the State of Maryland in Liberia did authorize Commissioners on their part to proceed to the United States to treat with the Maryland State Colonization Society, to arrange the future relation between the said Society and the State of Maryland in Liberia; and whereas, the said Commissioners, by the power invested in them, did treat with the said Society; therefore

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate,* That the said treaty, as entered into and agreed to, be and the same is hereby declared to have all the force of Law, and His Excellency, the Governor, is hereby authorized and requested to exchange the same as soon as the preliminaries have been fulfilled.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted by the Senate,* That on this 11th day July, 1854, the treaty of the Commissioners be ratified and filed in the archives of the State Department, and due publicity of the same be given to this end, that its conditions may be respected and guarded from violation or infringement.

Passed Tuesday, July 11th, 1854.

B. J. DRAYTON, *President of the Senate.*

Approved July 12th, 1854.

WM. A. PROUT, *Gov. St. Md. in La.*

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

VIII. Commissions and Reports

D. Reports of the Board of Managers

1856