

do business, but a less number may adjourn from day to day and compel the attendance of absent members, under such penalties as each house may prescribe. Each House shall be judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members: and may adopt its own rules of proceedings, enforce order, and with the concurrence of two thirds, may expel a member.

Sec. 14th. For a longer period than two days, neither House shall adjourn without the consent of the other: both Houses shall always sit in the same town, and each House shall have a negative on the other.

Sec. 15th. Any bill may originate in either House, and may be altered, amended or rejected by the other, and shall be read on three different days in each House, and having passed both Houses, in the manner here'n after provided for, shall be signed by their respective President and Speaker, and presented to the Governor for his approval. If he approve the same, he shall sign it: if he disapprove it, he shall return it to the house in which it originates, within five days with his objections: if he fail to return it within the above number of days, or, after it shall have been returned, it again pass both Houses, it shall be a law without the Governor's approval.

Sec. 16th. In going to or returning from, and during their attendance on their respective Houses, the members of the Assembly shall be privileged from arrest, in all cases except treason, fel-

ony, and breach of the peace; nor shall they be questioned or made responsible for any speech or debate in either House.

Sec. 17th. Except when secrecy shall be required, the sittings of each House shall be public, and each House may punish any person not a member, for disorderly or contemptuous behaviour in their presence while in session, by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars, or imprisonment, not exceeding forty-eight hours, for each and every offence.

Sec. 18th. The members of the Assembly shall receive from the State a compensation for their services to be ascertained by law.

Sec. 19th. A collector or holder of public moneys, assistant or deputy thereof shall not be eligible to any office of profit, or trust, until he shall have accounted for and paid over all sums for which he may be accountable; and no person who shall be convicted of having directly or indirectly, given, offered or received any bribe to procure his own election, or the election of any other person, or who shall be convicted of perjury or other infamous crimes, shall be eligible to any office of honor, profit, or trust within the State.

Sec. 20th. The Assembly shall have power to make laws in all cases, both civil and criminal, for the good government of the people of the State, not repugnant to the provisions of this

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XIII. Colonization Pamphlets

1. The Declaration of Rights,
The Constitution of the
State of Md. in Liberia

(rough draft, engrossed copy, printed copy)