

THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, BY OUR DELEGATE IN CONVENTION MET, DO OBTAIN AND ESTABLISH THIS CONSTITUTION FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SAID STATE:

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. The Legislative authority of this State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives. SECTION 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen by ballot, every second year, by the citizens of this State, qualified as in this Constitution is provided. SECTION 3. Each Judicial District in the State shall constitute one Election District, except Charleston District, which shall be divided into two Election Districts, one consisting of the late Parish of St. Philip and St. Michael, to be designated the Election District of Charleston; the other consisting of all that part of the Judicial District, which is without the limits of said Parish, to be known as the Election District of Berkeley.

SECTION 4. The boundaries of the several Judicial and Election Districts shall remain as they are now established. SECTION 5. The House of Representatives shall consist of one hundred and twenty-four Members, to be apportioned among the several Election Districts of the State, according to the number of white inhabitants contained in each, and the amount of all taxes raised by the General Assembly, whether direct or indirect, or of whatever species paid in cash, deducting therefrom all taxes paid on account of property held in any other District, and adding thereto all taxes elsewhere paid on account of property held in such District. SECTION 6. The enumeration herein directed shall not be made in the course of the year appointed for the purpose, it shall be the duty of the Governor to have it effected as soon thereafter as shall be practicable.

SECTION 7. In assigning Representatives to the several Districts, the General Assembly shall allow one Representative for every sixty-second part of the whole number of white inhabitants in the State, and one Representative also for every sixty-second part of the whole taxes raised by the General Assembly. SECTION 8. All taxes upon property, real or personal, shall be laid upon the actual value of the property taxed, as the same shall be ascertained by the assessment made for the purpose of laying such tax. SECTION 9. If, in the apportionment of Representatives by any Election District shall appear not to be entitled, from its population and its taxes, to a Representative, such Election District shall nevertheless send one Representative; and, if there be still a deficiency of the number of Representatives required by section fifth, such deficiency shall be supplied by assigning Representatives to those Election Districts having the largest surplus fractions, whether those fractions consist of a combination of population and taxes, or of population or taxes separately, until the number of one hundred and twenty-four Members be made up.

SECTION 10. No apportionment of Representatives shall be construed to take effect, in any manner, until the general election, which shall succeed such apportionment. SECTION 11. The Senate shall be composed of one member from each Election District, except the Election District of Charleston, which shall be allowed two Senators. SECTION 12. Upon the meeting of the first General Assembly, which shall be held under the provisions of this Constitution, the Senators shall be divided into two classes; the seats of the Senators of the one class to be vacated at the expiration of four years; and the number of their seats shall be so proportioned that one-half of the whole number of Senators may, as nearly as possible, continue to be chosen at every second year. SECTION 13. No person shall be eligible to, or take or retain, a seat in the House of Representatives, unless he is a free white man, who hath attained the age of twenty-one years, and hath been a citizen of this State three years next preceding the day of election, and hath been for the last six months of this time, and shall continue to be a resident of the District which he is to represent.

SECTION 14. No person shall be eligible to, or take or retain, a seat in the Senate, unless he is a free white man, who hath attained the age of thirty years, and hath been a citizen and resident of this State five years next preceding the day of election, and hath been for the last six months of this time, and shall continue to be a resident of the District which he is to represent. SECTION 15. Senators and Members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen at a general election on the third Monday in October in the present year, and on the same day in every second year thereafter, in such manner, and for such terms of office, as are herein directed. SECTION 16. The term of office of the Senators and Representatives chosen at a general election, shall begin on Monday following such election.

Government of the United States. President—Andrew Johnson, of Tennessee. Secretary of State—W. H. Seward, of New York. Secretary of War—Edwin M. Stanton, of Pennsylvania. Postmaster General—William Dennison, of Ohio. Secretary of the Navy—Gideon Welles, of Connecticut. Secretary of the Interior—James Harlan, of Iowa. Secretary of the Treasury—Hugh McCulloch, of Illinois. Attorney General—James Speed, of Kentucky. President of the Senate—Lafayette S. Foster, of Connecticut. Speaker of the House—Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana.

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