

been required to take an oath to perform their duties faithfully and to "do equal right to the poor and the rich" (18)

Manner of Removal

Judges of the court have always been subject to impeachment by the house of representatives, for misdemeanor; upon impeachment, a judge is tried by the Senate, and conviction, which must be by two-thirds vote of the senators present, results in removal from office. (19) A judge has also been removable by the governor for any "reasonable cause which shall not be sufficient ground of impeachment." Such action must be preceded by an address to the governor of two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature; each address must state in detail the cause given for removal; the journal of each house must also give a detailed statement of the reason. (20) Since 1850, a judge's residence outside his district has been automatic cause for his removal from office. (21)

Method of Filling Vacancy

A vacancy in the office has been filled by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate. (22) An act of 1851 has added the stipulation that the governor fill a vacancy within six weeks of receiving notice of such vacancy. (23)

Compensation

From 1802 to 1816, the chief judge received \$750 a year, subject to deductions for non-attendance and an assistant judge received \$2 for each day he served in court. (24) After the office of assistant judge was done away with in 1816, the circuit judge received \$1,200 a year (25); an act of 1852 increased his salary to \$1,400. (26) His salary was later raised to \$3,000 (27); and this is his present salary. (28)

First Meeting of Court

The court first met April 18, 1803. (29) The first chief judge was Samuel McDowell. (30)

18. LITTELL, VOL. 3, 1802, P. 41; ACTS, 1891-93, P. 1047; CARROLL, SEC. 972.
 19. CONST. OF 1799, ART. 5, SECS. 1-3; CONST. OF 1850, ART. 5, SECS. 1-3; CONST. OF 1891, SECS. 66-68.
 20. CONST. OF 1799, ART. 4, SEC. 3; CONST. OF 1850, ART. 4, SECS. 3, 23; CONST. OF 1891, SEC. 112.
 21. CONST. OF 1850, ART. 4, SEC. 23; CONST. OF 1891, SEC. 129.
 22. CONST. OF 1799, ART. 3, SEC. 9; CONST. OF 1850, ART. 3, SEC. 9; CONST. OF 1891, SEC. 152.
 23. ACTS, 1850-51, VOL. 1, P. 90.
 24. LITTELL, VOL. 3, 1802, P. 43.
 25. LITTELL, VOL. 5, 1816, P. 347.
 26. ACTS, 1851-52, P. 170.
 27. GEN. STAT., 1873 ED., P. 773.
 28. ACTS, 1887-88, VOL. 1, P. 143; CARROLL, SEC. 4357-5.
 29. "ORDER BOOK QUARTER SESSIONS COURT", VOL. C, P. 1, SEE ENTRY 136.
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