

Swear (or affirm) that I will support and maintain, the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office. So help me God."

*Sec. 5.* The following classes of persons shall be disqualified for office; First. All persons who shall deny the being of Almighty God. Second; All persons who shall have been convicted of treason, perjury or any other infamous crime, since becoming citizens of the United States, or of corruption, or malpractice in office, unless such persons shall have been legally restored to the rights of citizenship.

## Article VII.

### Municipal Corporations.

*Section 1.* In each county, there shall be elected, biennially, by the qualified voters thereof, as provided for the election of members of the General Assembly, the following officers, a Treasurer, Register of Deeds, Surveyor and five Commissioners.

*Sec. 2.* It shall be the duty of the Commissioners to exercise a general supervision and control of the penal

and charitable institutions, schools, roads, bridges, levying of taxes and finances of the county, as may be prescribed by law. The Register of Deeds shall be, ~~ex officio~~, clerk of the Board of Commissioners.

**Sec. 3.** It shall be the duty of the Commissioners, first elected in each county, to divide the same into convenient districts, to determine the boundaries and prescribe the names of the said districts, and report the same to the General Assembly before the first day of January, 1869.

**Sec. 4.** Upon the approval of the reports provided for in the foregoing section, by the General Assembly, the said districts shall have corporate powers for the necessary purposes of local government and shall be known as townships

**Sec. 5.** In each township there shall be biennially elected, by the qualified voters thereof, a clerk and two Justices of the Peace, who shall constitute a board of trustees, and shall, under the supervision of the County Commissioners, have control of the taxes and finances, roads and bridges of the township as may be prescribed by law. The General Assembly may provide for the election of a larger number of Justices of the Peace in cities and towns and in those townships in which cities and towns are situated

In every township there shall also be biennially elected a School Committee consisting of three persons whose duties shall be prescribed by law.

*Sec. 6.* The township Board of Trustees, shall assess the taxable property of their townships and make return to the County Commissioners, for revision as may be prescribed by law. The Clerk shall also be, *ex officio*, Treasurer of the township.

*Sec. 7.* No county, city, town or other municipal corporation, shall contract any debt, pledge its faith, or loan its credit, nor shall any tax be levied or collected by any officers of the same, except for the necessary expenses thereof, unless by a vote of a majority of the qualified voters therein.

*Sec. 8.* No money shall be drawn from any County or Township Treasury, except by authority of law.

*Sec. 9.* All taxes levied by any county, city, town or township, shall be uniform, and *ad valorem*, upon all property in the same, except property exempted by this Constitution.

*Sec. 10.* The county officers first elected under the provisions of this article shall enter upon their duties ten days after the approval of this Constitution by the Congress of the United States.

Sect. 11. The Governor shall appoint a sufficient number of Justices of the Peace, in each county who shall hold their places until sections four, five and six of this article shall have been carried into effect.

Sec 12. All charters ordinances and provisions relating to municipal corporations, shall remain in force until legally changed, unless inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution.

Section 13. No county, city, town or other municipal corporation shall assume or pay, nor shall any tax be levied or collected, for the payment of any debt, or the interest upon any debt, contracted, directly or indirectly, in aid or support of the rebellion -