

Article 7. Elective Franchise

Section 1. Every male person of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, belonging to either of the following classes, who shall have resided in the United States one year and in this State for four months next preceding any election, shall be entitled to vote at such election, in the election district of which he shall at the time have been for ten days a resident, for all officers that now are, or hereafter may be, elective by the people.

- 1st White citizens of the United States.
- 2nd White persons of foreign birth, who shall have declared their intentions to become citizens, conformably to the laws of the United States upon the subject of naturalization.
- 3rd Persons of mixed white and Indian blood, who have adopted the customs and habits of civilization.
- 4th Persons of Indian blood residing in this State who have adopted the language customs and habits of civilization, after an examination before any District Court of the State, in such manner as may be provided by law, and shall have been pronounced by said court capable of enjoying the rights of citizenship within the State.

Section 2. No person not belonging to one of the classes specified in the preceding section - no person who has been convicted of treason, or any felony, unless restored to civil rights, and no person under guardianship, or who may be non compos mentis, or insane, shall be entitled or permitted to vote at any election in this State.

Section 3. For the purpose of voting, no person shall be deemed to have lost a residence by reason of his absence while employed in the service of the United States - nor while engaged upon the waters of this State or of the United States, nor while a student at any seminary of learning, nor while kept at any alms-house or other asylum; nor while confined in any public prison.

Section 4. No soldier, seaman or marine in the army or navy of the United States, shall be deemed a resident of this State in consequence of being stationed within the same.

Section 5. During the day on which any election shall be held, no person shall be arrested by virtue of any civil process.

Section 6. All elections shall be by ballot, except for such town officers as may be directed by law to be otherwise chosen.

Section 7. Every person who by the provisions of this article shall be

The Constitution of the State of Minnesota.
Democratic Version.
Signed August 29, 1857.

entitled to vote at any election shall be eligible to any office which now is or hereafter shall be, elective by the people in the District wherein he shall have resided thirty days previous to such election - except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, or the Constitution and laws of the United States.