bers, elected every two years, and an assembly of 100 members, elected every year. The governor and other state officers and members of congress are elected for two years. The judicial power is exercised by a supreme court, consisting of a chief justice and two associates; circuit courts, probate courts, and justices of the peace; all judicial officers are elected by the people. For the purposes of local government the state is divided into 58 counties, which are grouped into assembly, senate, judicial and congressional districts. The counties are again divided into towns, in which the local affairs are mostly directed by the voters assembled in town-meetings.

PERSONAL RIGHTS.

In this state all men are free and equal in the eye of the law; one may express his sentiments on any subject; he is entitled to certain and speedy remedy for all injury to his person, property or character; no distinction is made between resident aliens and citizens in reference to the possession, enjoyment or descent of property; there is no imprisonment for debt, and a large amount of property is exempt from seizure or sale for the payment of debts; the right to worship according to the dictates of his own conscience is secured to every person, and he cannot be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or maintain any ministry against his own consent; no religious tests are required as a qualification for any office; and every man twenty-one years of age who is a citizen of the United States, or who has made a written declaration of his intention to become one, is a qualified voter, at any public election, as soon as he has been a resident of the state for one year. All are thus allowed to take an active part, and to exert their influence in determining who shall be the officers appointed to administer the affairs of the government; and through these officers the voters control the policy of the country, not only in the local matters of the town, county, and state, but also of the affairs of the general government at Washington.

RIGHT TO HOLD OFFICE.

Any person having declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and having resided in the state one year, has not only the right to vote at any election, but also the right to hold any office under the state government, except those of governor and lieutenant-governor, which he can also hold as soon as he becomes a citizen. Only the office of president of the United States is restricted to native-born citizens. Under this liberal provision of our constitution, persons of foreign birth are every year elected to fill state,