

which cases are removed, is under this system a great grievance. Courts and juries are kept in session at expense and inconvenience longer than necessary, with a view to their trial. The evils are undoubtedly great, and in the opinion of the senate, imperiously require a remedy. The bill under consideration applies the remedy without the slightest danger to the citizen. In all capital cases, where excitement would be likely to result from the crime, the power of removal is left by the bill with the accused. This perhaps is wrong, and it might, possibly, with more safety to the community, be left with a court of justice—but still the senate is unwilling, in cases affecting the life of an individual, to disturb the principle. So too, in cases of libel, where passion becomes excited, the power of removal is reserved. In minor cases even, it is not taken away—in them a removal may be had in the discretion of the court. And surely the judges to whom higher and more solemn duties are confided, may be trusted with the performance of this lesser duty. Can it be supposed to be unsafe to trust the decision of the question of removal, in a case of minor importance, to that tribunal, to which you have committed the solemn question of life or death? the high question whether a man shall live or die? Would not his liberty and his reputation be safe with that tribunal? Can it be supposed that the judges of a whole district would combine, and in defiance of public opinion—in violation of the law of the land—in disregard of their oaths of office, and of their own characters—refuse a removal of his cause, to any party, who justly and properly asked it at their hands?

The senate does not perceive in the bill the slightest danger, but on the contrary, a just and mild remedy for a great and onerous grievance.

The senate again then, and most respectfully, yet earnestly, solicits the reconsideration of the bill, under a hope that your honourable body may be induced to pass it.

Mr. Dennis, from the committee on invalid deeds, made a favourable report upon the bill, entitled, An act authorising Michael Sinnott, of Harford county, to hold certain real estate, with the following amendments, viz.

Amendments proposed.

In the 3d line of the 1st section fill up the blank with the word "fifth." In the 4th line, same section, fill up the blank with the word "November." In the 5th line of same section, fill the first blank with the word "tenth," and the second blank in said line with the word "March."

The said bill was then read a second, and by special order a third time, passed with the proposed amendments, and returned to the house of delegates.