

It would be foreign to the constitutional question, now under consideration; and it would be invidious to contrast the duties of the Chancellor with those of any common law Judge in the State.

But there are those, who mistake the object of the Act of November, 1809, ch. 181, requiring the number of days each Judge of the several Courts of law, attends in their respective Courts, to be certified annually to the General Assembly; and, under that mistake they have taken up an opinion, that judicial labour was a sort of job work, the value of which might be estimated by the number of days the labourer was employed. To those, it may be satisfactory to learn, that the business of the Court of Chancery has latterly very much increased, and continues to increase; and that its records will show, that the present Chancellor has either in the way of a formal session of a Court, or otherwise, been called upon about three hundred different days of the last year, to transact business which had been brought before him from almost all the different counties of the State.

It is because of the continual calls to which a Chancellor must always hold himself accessible, and because of the nature, and the peculiarly heavy pressure of the duties imposed upon such an officer, that the salary of the Chancellor of England, and of every State in this Union; has always been double, or at least one-third more than that of any other judicial officer. And it is for the same reasons, that the salary of the Chancellor of Maryland, from the first settlement of the country, up to this time, has always been in a similar proportion higher than that of any other judicial officer of the State. (x)

(x) The table on next page presents at one view the annual amount of all judicial salaries in Maryland, from the year 1773, to the year 1825 inclusive, translating those formerly given in the money of account of the State into dollars and cents.

The facts exhibited by this table suggest many matters for reflection; some of which it may be well here to notice. There was nothing in the frame of the Provincial Government which made it incompatible for one judicial officer to hold at the same time any other similar office, or indeed almost any other kind of office; or which prohibited his taking fees or perquisites of any kind; and it was in fact quite common for the same person to have a plurality of offices and to receive a variety of fees and perquisites as such. The last Provincial Governor was Chancellor and also *ex officio* Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, (1713, ch. 4, s. 6; 1729, ch. 3.) and consequently the aggregate amount of his salary as Governor, Chancellor, and Judge must have been at least \$5,066, besides fees and perquisites; yet at that time there was not half the amount of population and wealth in Maryland, that there is at present, (1825.)

The Declaration of Rights declares, that no person ought to hold, at the same time, more than one office of profit; and that no Chancellor or Judge ought to hold any other office civil or military, or receive fees or perquisites of any kind. Consequently the authority of the Chancellor and Judges of the Republic is limited to a single judicial office, and their official emolu-