

back upon the successful party by means of a tax on the amounts of final judgments; but nothing came of it. An increase in the salaries of all judges was also recommended in the same report, with the remark that,

The existing provision for the Court of Appeals, the most important branch of the judiciary, and where all business of importance is accumulating most rapidly, can scarcely be adequate to their expense.

No increase was made at that time, however. In 1797,²¹ the sum of \$300 was added to the yearly salary of judges of the Court of Appeals, and in 1799²² the total was increased to \$1000.

Notwithstanding the increased number of appeals, the pace of the court in disposing of business continued slow during the last years of the century. The case of Luther Martin v. The State, 1 Harris & Johnson's Reports, 721, concluded in the General Court in 1788, was not disposed of on appeal until 1805.²³ It was continued each term before that date.

In 1789, by an act, chapter 40, the terms of court were changed to June and November, and they remained so until 1805.

It was in 1783, or shortly after, that the design of the seal now in use by the court was adopted.²⁴ Until that time, the seal of the Governor and

21. Act 1797, ch. 79.

22. Act 1799, ch. 52.

23. Pinkney's reported characterization of Martin's argument in that case as "long though learned" would be puzzling if taken to refer to the dozen lines of citations in the published report. Harris' original notes of the argument cover twenty-four and a half pages.

24. See copy of original design on title page of this book.