

CHAP. 822

Preamble.

WHEREAS, The ranks of the men who fought in the service of the United States and Confederate States between the years 1861-1865 is fast being depleted, and the number of the old soldiers and sailors passing away is largely increasing ; and

WHEREAS, The burden upon the survivors in providing a decent burial for those that pass away without leaving any estate is becoming too great to be borne by them ; now, therefore,

Appropriation made.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the expenses of the interment of the bodies of deceased sailors, soldiers and marines who served in the United States or Confederate States Army or Navy between the years 1861-1865, and were honorably discharged, shall be paid by the State of Maryland ; provided, that the expense of such interment shall not exceed in any one case more than thirty-five dollars ; and provided, that said expense shall only be borne by the State of Maryland in the event that such deceased soldier, sailor or marine left no estate, and that the death occurred in the State of Maryland.

Warrant to be issued.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That the Comptroller of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized and directed to issue his warrant on the Treasurer of the State to pay the expense hereinbefore mentioned ; that before the Comptroller shall issue said warrant there shall be presented to him, with an itemized bill of the undertaker, a certificate of death, stating the name and age of the deceased, together with the cause of death, if the deceased was buried in Baltimore city, and if the deceased was buried in one of the counties of the State, then a certificate of the County Commissioners living nearest the place where the deceased shall have lived, or the certificate of a health officer ; said certificate also to bear the endorsement of the commander of the department of Maryland Grand Army of the Republic, or of the commander, president of the association of the Maryland line, as to the service of the deceased.

When expenses of interment shall not be paid.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That in no case shall the expense of interment be paid when the deceased is buried in a cemetery or county plot used exclusively for interment of paupers or public charges.