

persons, shall after the first day of June next, pay out, pass or circulate any promissory note, bill, order, evidence of debt, or other paper security, and any one so offending, shall forfeit and pay for each offence twenty dollars.

Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That no ordinary keeper, trader or retailer, or other person or persons, who buy and sell under a license issued under and in virtue of the laws of this State, shall issue, pass, pay out or receive after the first day of June next, any bill, note, order, evidence of debt or paper security, and any one so offending shall forfeit his license, and all the courts and officers of this State, are hereby prohibited from granting a new license to any person or persons so offending.

Sec. 4. And be it enacted, That this act shall receive a liberal interpretation, to suppress the mischief. And any note, bill, order or other writing, designed or used as money or currency, shall be held and considered a paper security, within the meaning of this act, and the forfeitures under the first and second section of this act shall be recovered in the name of the State, before a justice of the peace, as small debts are now recovered, and one half of such forfeitures shall go to the State and the other to the informer.

Sec. 5. And be it enacted, That no one shall be liable to the penalties of this act, who can show that the note or evidence of debt he issued, passed or received, was a real bona fide evidence of debt, and not intended to circulate as money.

Sec. 6. And be it enacted, That the issues of the several banks of this State shall not be considered as within the provisions of this act, nor shall the stock orders of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, the issues of the Annapolis and Elkridge Rail Road Company, or the issues of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, be considered as within the provisions of this act: provided that no corporation except the banks shall issue any new notes, orders or paper security for circulation."

Read the first and by special order the second time;

Mr. Sutton of Kent moved to lay the said amendments on the table;

Determined in the negative.

The said amendments were then assented to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

And delivered the following message:

*By the Senate,*

March 10th, 1842.

*Gentlemen of the House of Delegates:*

We have declined to reconsider the divorce bills sent to us, and deem it inexpedient to do so. The courts now have jurisdiction of these cases, and from the greater facility these tribunals have of hearing both parties, examining their witnesses and proof, and ascertaining the truth of the representations, on which relief is claimed, the ends of justice will be best promoted by referring all questions of this sort to the courts. The Legislature is neces-