

The said bill was then read a second, and by special order a third time, and rejected.

The senate according to the order of the day, proceeded to take up for consideration the bill, entitled, An act to restrain and punish certain evil practices.

The amendment reported by the committee to said bill having been read a second time, and after some discussion, the question was put, Will the senate assent to the amendment? Determined in the affirmative.

The bill having been read a second time and amended, the question was put, Shall the bill as amended be engrossed for a third reading?

On this question the yeas and nays being asked for, were taken and appeared as follows:

AFFIRMATIVE.

Messrs. Marriott, Pres't.
Dennis
Forrest
Harrison
Herbert

Rees
Smith
Thomas
Whiteley—9

NEGATIVE.

Messrs. Heath
Kennedy

Sewell—3

Determined in the affirmative. So the senate ordered the bill to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Kennedy offered the following message; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table:

By the Senate,

February 21, 1831.

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,

The senate returns, and respectfully requests the reconsideration by your honourable body, of the bill abolishing Imprisonment for Debt from and after the fourth day of July next, on judgments rendered by justices of the peace for any debt contracted after that date not exceeding thirty dollars.

The great and humane principle of abolishing Imprisonment for Debt, except in cases of fraud alleged and proved, is rapidly gaining ground in the United States, and several of our sister states have passed laws on the subject, and to the honour of Maryland it can be said that no female can be imprisoned for debt; and with regard to the cases of all insolvent debtors in Maryland, who petition the county court for relief, there is in fact no Imprisonment for Debt, when the debtor assigns all his property for the benefit of his creditors; but it is well known that