

title of continuances alone, or rather for the doing of no service whatever. Is it possible that this can be right? and does it not afford an unanswerable argument in favour of the present bill?

As to those services which are peculiar to the chancery court, this house, being perfectly satisfied from a comparison with analogous duties required of the clerks in the other courts, and from a view of the whole subject, that the register's fees are all of them extravagantly high, it is proposed in the second section of the bill, that those fees, not specially limited by the first section, should be reduced to one half the present scale, and it is believed they will still be left higher in proportion to the trouble than those of the other officers already named.

The senate will no doubt observe, that the law which regulates those fees has become a temporary one, dependent on the general continuance act, which is usually passed at the end of every session; there can be no impropriety, therefore, in this mode of interference, for it seems to have been intended that the legislature should exercise the discretionary power of altering any part of the fee bill whenever such reformation should be perceived to be necessary or expedient. The clerks fees in the court of appeals were reduced three years ago in the manner which has been stated, and those of the register also would certainly have long since shared the same fate if the matter had been duly urged, or if the attempt, which has been sometimes thought of, had not been defeated by going too far, or because of the connexion with other schemes which were found to be impracticable. But if abuses, as in this instance, do exist under our laws, particularly such as relate to the public economy, and the perquisites of office, which the people are to pay, could there be a time more proper to legislate on such a subject than a period like this, which imposes so many sacrifices on every other class of society.

We therefore presume to return this bill to the senate, and we trust that upon further reflection they will be pleased to give it their assent.

And the question was put, That the house agree to the same? The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

		A F F I R M A T I V E.								
Messrs	Hebb	Blake	Dorsey	Dennis	Beall	J H Thomas	Hughlett	S Thomas		
	Blakistone	Ireland	Parnham	Griffith	Hayward	Sappington	Young	Veatch		
	Hopewell	Grahame	Bayly	Page	Wilson	J Thomas	Bowles	M Mahon		
	Belt	P Stuart	Gale	Perrie	Bennett	Forwood	Carroll	Tomlinson		
	Reynolds	Chapman	Cottman	Herbert	Baer	Streett	Gaither	Reid	40	
		N E G A T I V E.								
Messrs	Brice	Stansbury	Stevens	Mitchell	Hopper	Scott	Bayard	Bland		
	Welch	Harriman	Edmondson	Porter	Spencer	Sanders	Willis	Downey		
	Hodges	Randall	Kerr	Hart	Wright	Davis	R Steuart	Hilleary	28	
	Merrick	Brown	Seth	Boyle						

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

The following order was read:

Whereas it is totally irreconcilable with justice, humanity and sound policy, that the state of Maryland should permit her veterans in the revolutionary war to pine away in want and misery, when her treasury is replete with wealth, flowing from their exertions and privations; therefore, in order to ascertain the number of the survivors, and to make some uniform provision for the same, ORDERED, That the governor and council be requested to cause the following notification to be published in the different news-papers in this state.

The officers and privates in the Maryland line during the revolutionary war, and who are not provided for by the state, are requested to report themselves by the next general assembly to the governor, in order that some legislative provision may be made for them.

The house adjourns until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

T H U R S D A Y, December 22, 1808.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. The resolutions in favour of Young Wilkinson, Michael M'Can, John Imeson, and the bill to regulate the fees of the register of the court of chancery, with the message requesting a reconsideration of the same, were sent to the senate by the clerk.

ORDERED, That the bill for the relief of William H. Smith, of the city of Baltimore, be recommitted.

ORDERED, That the petition of Richard Dallam be withdrawn, and the committee discharged.

The bill to prevent the erection of chimnies of materials other than brick or stone in the town of Salisbury, in Somerset and Worcester counties, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

The bill for the appointment of a bailiff for the orphans court for Baltimore county, was read the second time, and the question was put, Shall the said bill pass? Determined in the negative. Which bill was sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. Bayard, from the committee, delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act for the relief of insolvent debtors; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Carroll, from the committee, delivers to the speaker a bill, entitled, An act to make public a road in Montgomery county; which was read the first and second time by especial order, passed, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. Wilson, from the committee, delivers to the speaker the following report: