Jan. 19.] OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES. 169

Chapman Dudley Hicks Burchenal Jones Harding—24

Mr. Gough chairman of the committee on insolvency reported a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Peter Johnson, late a resident of New York; which was read.

On motion by Mr. Brookhart, the house proceeded to consider the bill reported by him entitled, An act to abolish all and every such parts of the constitution and form of government in this state, as relate to the appointment of the offices of register of wills and clerks of the county courts of this state.

When, on motion by Mr. Tilghman, the said bill was a-mended by adding at the end of the second section thereof, the following proviso: "Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to authorise the removal of the clerks of the respective county courts, or registers of wills in commission at the time of the confirmation of this act by the next general assembly, in any mode or manner than that provided by the constitution and form of government.

Mr. Tilghman moved further to amend said section by adding the following proviso: And provided further, that the said clerks and registers shall be respectively appointed for a term of not less than five years, and be re-eligible to the said offices in the discretion of the appointing power.

Mr. Wootton moved to strike out "five" and insert "one." On the question being put, it was determined in the negative.

Mr. Steele moved to amend the amendment proposed by Mr. Tilghman, by inserting after the word "appointed" the words "as now provided for by the constitution and laws of this state."

Mr. Wootton then moved to refer the bill and amendments to the first day of June next? Determined in the negative.

Mr. Hawkins moved to strike out the enacting clause of the bill? Determined in the negative.

The question was then taken on Mr. Steele's proposition, to amend the amendment as proposed by Mr. Tilghman; and on the question being put, was determined in the negative.

The question then recurred on the amendment as offered by Mr. Tilghman; resolved in the affirmative.