

time for making a road in Baltimore county; also the bill, entitled, An act to divorce William W. Vickars, and Rebecca Vickars, of Dorchester county, severally endorsed "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed.

Also the bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act supplementary to an act for the opening of Pratt-street, passed at December session 1828, chapter 88; also the bill, entitled, An additional act relating to the city of Baltimore, severally endorsed "will pass with the proposed amendments;" which amendments were severally read the first, and by special order the second time, assented to, and the bills ordered to be engrossed.

Also the bill, entitled, An act to regulate fees on executions, endorsed "will not pass."

Also the resolution in favour of Elizabeth Dawkins, of Calvert county, widow of a revolutionary soldier, endorsed "dissented from."

And delivered a bill originated in and passed by the senate, entitled, An act to abolish imprisonment for debt on certain judgments rendered by justices of the peace.

And the following message:

By the Senate,

February 21, 1831.

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,

The senate returns, and respectfully requests the reconsideration by your honorable 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. And further, any application to the county court for the benefit of the insolvent laws, is always attended with considerable costs, in many instances exceeding the amount of the debt, and it was with a view to relieve the unfortunate class of poor debtors, that the senate passed the present bill; a bill which the principles of justice and humanity call for.

The senate therefore earnestly requests, that your honourable body will reconsider and pass the bill now returned, entitled,