

ARTICLE XXXVIII.

Fees of Officers.

SEC. 1. All accounts for officers' fees shall be made out in a fair and clear manner and in words at length; and whenever any person interested in them or to whom the same shall be charged, shall require a copy of such account, the several officers herein named shall, in as short a time as may be convenient, give him an account of such charges in words at length.

2. No officer, under the penalty of five hundred dollars, shall send out his fees on execution more than once in every year, between the first day of January and the first day of May.

3. If any officer shall by himself, his deputies, agents or clerks, charge, receive, ask or demand any larger or greater fees than are allowed by this article, he shall for each offence forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars and not less than twenty dollars, to be recovered by indictment in the Circuit Court for the county where such officer resides; or if the offence be committed in the city of Baltimore, by indictment in the Criminal Court of Baltimore, one-half to the informer, the other half to the State, and the informer to be a competent witness.

4. If any officer shall by himself or his deputies, agents or clerks, ask, receive or demand any fees herein allowed, after the same have been paid, he shall for each offence forfeit and pay ten dollars, to be recovered before a justice of the peace as small debts, one-half to the use of the informer, who shall be a competent witness, and the other half for the State, and shall in addition, return to the party the fees so improperly received.

5. For any service not mentioned in this article which any officer may render, he shall be allowed the same fees herein allowed for similar services.

6. Any officer entitled to any fees for rendering services to any person who is not a resident of this State, or not assessed on taxable property therein, may require such fees to be paid at