

for the last year 1854 the sum paid for this account was \$1,763. A single settlement with Messrs. Barrings Brothers & Co., and an agreement with them providing for semi-annual remittances of paid Coupons to the Treasury Department, at such periods, when the Officers of the Department would have time to record the same, would entirely dispense with the necessity of a Coupon Committee. The Committee of Ways and Means could, in one day, examine the registered Coupons and test the accuracy of the record.

There should be provision by law, allowing the Comptroller, in case of necessary absence from Annapolis or illness, to appoint, in writing, his Chief Clerk to discharge the duties of Comptroller *pro tem.*, and for all the acts of said Deputy, while so acting, the Bond of the Comptroller should be answerable in the same manner and extent as for his personal acts. As the office is at present organised, a severe illness of the incumbent would entirely arrest the regular business of the Department.

It is impossible for the present incumbent to retire from this Office without bearing testimony to the promptness and fidelity with which the Clerks of the Treasury Department have discharged their respective duties.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WM. PINKNEY WHYTE,

Comptroller.