

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,

ANNAPOLIS, *March 15, 1865.*

HON. JOHN M. FRAZIER,

*Speaker of the House of Delegates of Maryland:*

SIR,—In compliance with an order of your Honorable Body passed on the 3d day of March, 1865, in the following words:

“Whereas, the Committee on Claims has been informed by certain members of the General Assembly that certificates issued by the Chairman have been dishonored at the counter of the Farmers Bank of Maryland; therefore,

“Ordered, that the Comptroller of the Treasury and the Cashier of said Bank be requested to report to this House, by what authority said certificates have been rejected.”

I most respectfully state that believing the order of the House of Delegates which proposed to authorize the payment of mileage to the members of the General Assembly, to be in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution on the subject, I advised the Cashier of the Farmers Bank of Maryland that I deemed it my duty to decline to issue a warrant for the payment of the same.

Believing, however, the importance of the questions raised by this action, I sought and have obtained the opinion of the Attorney General upon them, a copy of which I herewith submit as part of this report.

I would also respectfully suggest that the payment of mileage as thus proposed, to the members and officers of the General Assembly, would, at each regular and special session thereof, take from the Treasury of the State at least eighteen thousand dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT J. JUMP, *Comptroller.*