

cial purposes) have increased with unexampled rapidity. At the time of the appointment of the present Treasurer they amounted to a very few thousand dollars; at the present moment they largely exceed in value a million of dollars. The sinking fund in particular challenges the attention of the House. Upon its improvement the Treasurer seems to have lavished all his skill; and it is made demonstrable that under a like management it will be adequate to the regular redemption of the whole of the present debt.

From contemplating the amount of these funds your committee has been naturally led to inquire into the cost of their administration. They find it is literally nothing. The Treasurer for the Western Shore is their sole administrator; and his official salary of two thousand dollars is the only compensation allowed him for his usual and his extraordinary services.

This is perhaps the only instance in which such large funds are administered without correspondent expenses. Your committee would respectfully suggest that the duties of commissioner of a sinking fund differ materially from those of a receiver and disburser of general revenues. And if from the peculiar fitness of the person fulfilling the office of Treasurer, it is deemed expedient to cast on him inappropriate and most responsible duties, it is but reasonable that a peculiar compensation should be made him for the performance of those services. Whilst the State owned stocks of the United States the late Treasurer held and managed those stocks as Trustee, and as such received an additional compensation, or salary of two hundred dollars a year, and sometimes four hundred. Many such instances might be referred to of additional compensation allowed to salaried officers for extraordinary services. Your committee would therefore suggest that it will be in accordance with usage in similar cases to allow to the Treasurer, a small compensation for his services in managing those special funds. The proper form of allowance would be a small commission chargeable to and payable out of the funds themselves.

Many other considerations influence the committee in making these suggestions. The business of the Treasury Department has increased greatly during the last thirteen years. The annual income of the Funds at this moment is equal in amount to the whole of the annual receipts into the Treasury, before the time above alluded to, and the labor and responsibilities of the Treasurer, have increased in a still greater proportion. Thus by the act of 1824, ch. 149, the Treasurer is required to discriminate in his accounts between the revenues which accrued before, and the accruing revenues of the current year. This alteration alone has nearly doubled the labors of the Treasurer in making the accounts of receipts into the Treasury.— During the same term different branches of revenue have been created and different modes of assessing and accounting for revenues to be derived from pro-existing sources have been prescribed. As laws creating additional branches of revenue your committee might enumerate the Tobacco Inspection and Auction Laws, and the