

## STATE TOBACCO WAREHOUSE, No. 4.

To the Honorable

*Speaker of the House of Delegates,*

SIR:—I received this day an order of the House, requiring the Inspectors of Tobacco in the city of Baltimore, to make known to the House under oath, the actual amount paid to hands employed in their respective Warehouses, per day, per week, and per year. And who are in the constant habit of weighing Tobacco, and calling out the weights.

In reply to the first interrogatory, I answer that before I entered on the duties of the office, I was informed that I would find it necessary as Inspector, to have eight or ten hands perfectly under my control, as my own to be always at my bidding, and as I had not the necessary number of my own, I was induced to hire from their masters by the year, subject to be discharged whenever they did not discharge their duty, six hands who had been employed by my predecessor, for several years, I received for their services as well as for the services of those I brought with me from the country, \$1 per day for every day they worked for the State, which was the price always paid to laborers in the Warehouses, I found no copy of the laws regulating the inspection of Tobacco, and had to act from precedent. After I commenced work, I hired two others, slaves, by the month, finding some of those I had did not suit me, they worked a few months for which I also received \$1 per day, for every day they worked. The other hands which I found it necessary to employ, as I wanted them, have been white men and free negroes, who have all received their one dollar per day, for every day they worked. And as I consider my own hands and those I hired from their masters, which were mine, for the time I hired them, equal to any others, I had a right to receive for their services the same amount, I paid to others.

In reply to the 2nd Interrogatory I answer, all the Tobacco is weighed by a Clerk, who enters it upon a slate, from which it is copied in the books of the Warehouse. And no one is in the constant habit of calling out the weights.

Very respectfully,

S. R. WATERS, Inspector.

January 17th, 1845.

STATE OF MARYLAND, *Baltimore City, to wit:*

On this 17th day of January, 1845, before the subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace, of the State of Maryland, in and for said city, personally appeared S. R. Waters, Inspector of Tobacco at Warehouse, No. 4, in the city of Baltimore, and made oath on the Holy Evangelical of Almighty God, that the answers contained in the foregoing letter in pursuance of a resolution of the House of Delegates, are true.

Sworn to Before

A. H. PENNINGTON.