

## STATE LIBRARY,

ANNAPOLIS, JANUARY 2, 1867.

*To the Committee on the Library.*

GENTLEMEN :

Soon after the adjournment of the General Assembly of 1865, I found, by a mistake, there had been no appropriation made for paying the expenses of distributing the Laws, Journals and Documents of that session. This expense had to be paid out of my Library Contingent Fund, or not distribute the laws as required by law.

The meeting of the General Assembly in extra session last winter imposed an additional heavy expenditure of the contingent fund to pay freight, express charges and all other charges incident on the session. The appropriation for stationery for the Departments being insufficient to meet the demand, I was compelled to spend about three hundred (\$300) dollars of my contingent fund to supply them.

These extra demands upon my contingent fund of course were unexpected and unprovided for, and brought me over one hundred (\$100) dollars in debt for the year ending January 1st, 1866.

By the most rigid economy during the year just closed, I paid all these extra expenses and the usual expenses of the office, and have had some repairs done and improvements made in the Library. All the alcoves have been shelved and fitted up and some new furniture added, and I have a small balance of nine hundred (\$900) dollars to be carried forward to the present year.

### AUGMENTATION FUND.

This fund has been expended to the best advantage. I have visited Philadelphia in the purchase of law books, and on all amounts except some inconsiderate bills have secured a discount to the *State* of from twenty to twenty-five per cent.

I have been greatly assisted in the selection of law books by the Honorable Judges of the Court of Appeals, to whom I am under special obligations, and to whom I refer you as to the efficiency and faithfulness of the Librarian and his Assistant.

The State Library, in its growing prosperity, ought to be the pride of every Marylander. It now rates, I believe, in size and numbers as the third in the United States. Why should it not be the first in the Union?