

ing in a representative capacity, to regard the interests of their constituency, who, in the exercise of a high confidence, have reposed such trusts in their hands. The requirements from the Treasury to meet this demand, would probably not be less than a million of dollars, to which large sum the Comptroller, in his report, has suggested that the Legislature should add, by an extension of the provisions of the Acts of 1864 and 1865, to the volunteers and drafted men of 1861, 1862, and of a large part of 1863.

The object of these and kindred laws, was to secure enlistments for the United States—to supply the quotas of Maryland, and by placing it in the power of our citizens to procure substitutes, principally without the limits of the State, retain their own services, so important at such time, to keep up production, and to prevent the waste of her rich agricultural resources, already so seriously impaired by the loss of her slave labor. The policy was a wise one, and to it, in no small degree, is due the result, that though Maryland met every demand of the Federal Government for men, she husbanded the lives of her own citizens, and but few of those who added to her productive labor have been lost. The rolls of the Adjutant General's office show that the number of those whom it is proposed thus to make provision for, amount in the aggregate to 13,794, which would make a demand on the Treasury for nearly four millions of dollars. This large amount, added to the million of dollars that would probably be required to meet the provisions of the Act of 1867, chapter 372, and the \$1,151,000 which it is proposed to provide for, would swell the addition to the permanent debt incurred by the war, from \$601,000 to \$6,151,000, and entail on our posterity a debt, which would neither commend our wisdom, or secure their gratitude. The effect of such a policy, too, in making it necessary to place upon our people heavy additional taxation, will be to induce many of those who have located within our borders, to seek other homes, and act as a blight to the prospects of our State, which have looked to the development of her resources by the encouragement of immigration. It would make it necessary for the State to deal out education with a stinting hand to her children—disappoint in this respect the cherished expectations of her people, and paralyze the hopes, which regard the cultivation of her intellectual wealth, as the surest and most solid basis of her growth and prosperity. Your Committee venture the hope that such suggestions will not meet the approbation of this General Assembly. Such legislation is uncalled for, unwise and unnecessary. The demands on the Treasury to pay the bounties already ordered under the Acts of 1864 and 1865, and still outstanding, have been estimated by the Comptroller, among the probable dis-