

All the money in the hands of Bounty and County Commissioners has been refunded, except a portion of the balance from Baltimore City, for which suit has been instituted by the State's Attorney.

#### PENSIONS.

There was paid during the fiscal year on account of Pensions, under chapters 385 of 1867, and 432 of 1868, the sum of \$118,350.00. As the law now stands and is executed, it is a great source of annoyance and trouble to the Department, caused by the number of agents and individuals collecting these claims. It was a charitable and patriotic spirit that induced the payment of pensions to the soldiers and widows of soldiers of the war of 1812, and if only allowed to those who are really in necessitous or indigent circumstances, it would be well enough; but from the manner in which some of these claims are made at long intervals, I am induced to believe that many are not indigent—otherwise they would claim payment quarterly, as the pension matured. It certainly is a reflection on the independence and filial affection of any person, to permit an aged parent to become a pensioner on the bounty of the State.

Should the General Assembly, regarding all the circumstances, decide to continue this law in operation, it is desirable to throw further safeguards around its execution, in order that those who are not really needy or indigent, may be excluded. I would most earnestly recommend the appointment of an agent in every county, and in each Legislative District of Baltimore City, to receive applications and disburse the money, and to be paid for their services by a commission fixed by law.

This would save the Treasury Department much trouble, and render the law more effective.

#### MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.

The receipts into the Treasury from all sources of revenue will be found on Tables from 1 to 13 inclusive. Of these the most important is No. 1—Receipts from Clerks, &c., amounting to \$487,373.77. As the law now stands, non-resident traders are not required to take out license except in Baltimore City. I think the law should be changed to embrace all the counties as well.