

order and repair; and for the purpose of reducing the expenses of the State fishery force the said board are further authorized, in their discretion, to sell one of the steamers and to turn the funds arising from such sale over to the comptroller, to be placed to the credit of the oyster fund; and also to establish such rules and regulations as they may think proper for reducing the number of employees and otherwise curtailing the expenses of said force; and the said board shall also have power to purchase or build two suitable sailing vessels to take the place of the sloops *Mary Compton* and *Nannie Merriman*, and the said board of public works shall have power to assign the said sloops *Mary Compton* and *Nannie Merriman*, or some other suitable sailing vessel, to guard the line now established between the tongers and scrapers in the Great Choptank river running from the long wharf, known as the Maryland Steamboat Company's wharf, at Cambridge, to the Bowdle House in Talbot county, and to guard the waters of Poplar island narrows in Talbot county; and on the first of October in each year the said board shall appoint a deputy commander at a salary of fifty dollars per month for six months for each of the said sloops so stationed, and the deputy commander guarding the line first named shall be authorized to appoint a mate at forty dollars per month, and two seamen at thirty dollars per month, to serve six months as aforesaid; provided, however, that the mate and one seaman shall not be residents of the county of which the said deputy commander is a resident, but shall be residents of the other county of said district; and provided further, that the amount necessary to pay said salaries shall be paid to the comptroller equally by the clerks of the circuit courts for Talbot and Dorchester counties, respectively, from funds received by them for licenses to scrape in said Choptank river, and now by law directed to be paid to the school fund of said counties; and the deputy commander in charge of the sloops guarding the waters in Poplar island narrows shall be authorized to appoint a mate at a salary of forty dollars per month, and two seamen at thirty dollars per month, to serve as aforesaid; and the said clerk of the circuit court for Talbot county shall be directed to pay over to the comptroller one-half of said salaries from the licenses received as aforesaid.