

## CHAPTER 561.

AN ACT to provide for a full investigation into the accounts of Stevenson Archer, State treasurer, by the joint committee on the part of the senate and house of delegates during the recess of the general assembly, and appropriating a sum of money to pay the expenses of said joint committee, and a proper compensation to them while engaged in their said work of investigation.

To continue investigation

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the joint committee heretofore appointed by the general assembly to take into consideration the recent special message of the governor in relation to the accounts of State treasurer, Stevenson Archer, viz: John P. Poe and John Walter Smith on the part of the senate, and Frank T. Shaw, Philip D. Laird and William C. Harden on the part of the house, be and they are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to make a full investigation into the accounts of Stevenson Archer, State treasurer, and of the manner in which he has conducted the affairs of his office, and to continue such investigation after the adjournment of the general assembly until such time as such investigation is fully completed, and to the end that such investigation may be thorough and complete, said joint committee is hereby authorized to summon and examine witnesses under oath, and to compel their attendance, and to call for and compel the production of books, papers and documents, and generally to take such steps as in their judgment shall be necessary and proper, to ascertain the true condition of the accounts of the treasurer; the meetings of said joint committee shall be open to the public whenever any testimony is taken, and so far as is practicable all the proceedings of said committee shall be open to the inspection of the public.

To prefer charges

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That the said committee be and they are hereby instructed, that whenever they are satisfied upon the evidence before them, that the said treasurer has been guilty of malfeasance in office, or misappropriation of the funds of the State, (should the legislature then not be in session,) they shall forthwith, and without waiting to conclude their investigation as to the extent thereof, prefer charges of such malfeasance or misappropriation against the said treasurer to the governor, to the end that the governor may proceed to execute the power lodged with him by section six, of article six, of the constitution of the State.

Report

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That upon the completion of their said work of investigation, they shall make a full and detailed report thereof to the governor, with such recommendations as they shall deem proper.