

could possibly grow from leaving their salaries open to increase, for any bribe, attempted to be given, in the shape of increasing their salaries, would be too gross and public a scandal to be accepted even if it were offered.

I wish I had been able to send you a more fully reasoned statement of my views, but as you desire to have them anyhow I have endeavored to give you a fair outline of the process by which my own mind has been let to the conclusion which I have stated. I am very glad to be able to entertain the opinion which I have expressed, because the salaries which our Judges are receiving are simply discreditable. I have never referred to them, in conversation with any of our professional brethren in other States, without causing an expression of astonishment at their inadequacy. While it is gratifying to know that under all difficulties we have been able to secure the services of a body of Judges, who are so worthy of their high position, it is painful to reflect, that they cannot, by any possibility, accumulate anything from their salaries to provide for old age, or for the support of themselves and their families, in any of the contingencies which may remove them from the Bench.

Very truly yours,

S. T. WALLIS.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO CENTRAL BUILDING,

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 27th, 1892.

INCREASE OF JUDICIAL SALARIES.

Hon. James P. Gorter,

Senate, Annapolis, Md. :

DEAR SIR: As requested by you we have examined the provisions of the Constitution relating to judicial salaries, and with pleasure give you our views upon the same.

The 24th section of Article 4, of the Constitution of 1867, provides that "the salary of each Chief Judge and of the Judge of the Court of Appeals from the city of Baltimore, shall be \$3,500, and of each Associate Judge of the Circuit Court shall be \$2,800 per annum, payable quarterly, and shall not be diminished during his continuance in office."