

In ascertaining the meaning of these two provisions, it is held by high authority (that of the late Judge Miller of the Supreme Court of the United States,) that the differences in the language used with reference to the salary of Judges and the salary of the President is significant. He holds that the fact that in the case of the President, the prohibition is against either an *increase* or *decrease* of salary, while in the case of the Judges, the prohibition is against a *decrease* only, shows that the intention of the framers of the Constitution was in the latter case to prohibit merely a *decrease* of salary. We have the same means of arriving at the meaning of the framers of our Constitution. When we compare the language used in Article 4, section 24, with the language of Article 4, section 31, we find that in the latter section, in speaking of the salary of the Judges of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore city, which they receive from the State, it is provided that that amount shall not be *diminished* during their term of office, using the same language that is found in section 24 of Article 4, but when the subject of the increase by the Mayor and City Council of the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Bench is spoken of, it is provided by section 31 of Article 4, that the additional amount which the Mayor and City Council are permitted to pay "shall not be *diminished* or *increased* during the continuance of said Judges in office."

It is quite plain that in section 31 the Constitution only prohibits the *decrease* of the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Bench paid by the State, while with reference to the additional sum payable by the Mayor and City Council, the prohibition is against *any change* of that sum by *increasing* or *decreasing* it, and there can be no doubt, applying the rule of construction adopted by Judge Miller with reference to the Federal Constitution, that the omission in Article 31, of the prohibition against *decreasing* the salary paid by the State was intentional. In the same way when in Article 4, section 24, the Constitution deals with the salary of each Chief Judge and of the Judges of the Court of Appeals and of the Associate Judges of the Circuit Courts, the restriction is, only