

name the salary and make it a part of the organic law, if its future continuance is to be at the disposal of the Legislature? The office accepted by the Judge, according to the provisions of the Constitution, becomes a matter of contract between him and the State; he has the duties of it to perform, the State the obligation and duty to pay. The Constitution in itself makes the necessary appropriation, and no legislative action is required to enforce it. The office becomes, during the term, the property of the Judge, to be used for public purposes, and he cannot be legislated out of it or deprived of any part of the salary attached to it. The salary being fixed by organic law, working in itself the necessary appropriation to meet it, is equally beyond the power of the Legislature to increase it. Neither the Legislature or the State is engaged in the work of bestowing or granting gratuities; if so, discrimination would be exercised, and they would not fall, like the dews of heaven, equally on the deserving and undeserving, the just and the unjust. The Judge takes the office *cum onere*, agrees to discharge its duties for the salary attached to it. Any increase of salary during the term would be in the nature of a gratuity, not contemplated or provided for in the organic law of this State, but expressly negatived by the positive provision of the Constitution fixing the salary at so much.

It will be asked, then, why did the framers of the Constitution provide that the salary named should not be diminished and omit to say that it shall not be increased?

Does not the provision that it shall not be diminished evidence the fact that the framers of the Constitution intended that it might be increased? That they apprehended or understood that in the absence of the prohibitory attachment or clause it might be diminished, and therefore understood and intended that in the absence of a similar prohibitory attachment or clause to the increase it might be increased at Legislative will.

The implied power to increase could only rest in some such argument as this.