

they did at a meeting of said Committee in order to facilitate the investigations into the various matters with which they were specially charged, appoint five members of the same, to wit: Messrs. Gorman, Hepbron, Snowden, Hoblitzell and Turner, to fully carry out the requirements of said order, who in the discharge of their duty, did fully examine into the conduct of the officers of the several Clerks of the Courts in Baltimore city, as to their management, economy and expenses, and find that they are conducted with as little expense as could well be done, having in view the interest of the business community, and the convenience of the public.

We do not find that either an excess of deputies are employed, or that extravagant salaries are allowed in any of them. We also find that the number of deputies and their salaries are entirely by law under the control and supervision of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore city and the Comptroller of the Treasury.

The fees they receive are those fixed by the laws of the State, and are subject, at all times, to an examination as to their correctness by the Judges of the Courts in Baltimore city, except the fees for receiving and paying over the public money by the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, which are fixed by the Act of 1874, at two per cent. instead of one per cent. as allowed prior to that Act.

Upon a full and very searching examination into this matter, we find that no part of this additional compensation goes either to his individual or official income, but is treated entirely as his other fees, going into his general account of fees and emoluments, and that after his own salary, the salaries of his deputies and the incidental expenses of his office, are deducted; that the remainder, including this additional compensation or commission, is paid over to the State Treasury as excess of fees, as will be readily seen by an examination of the Comptroller's reports for the years 1873, 1874 and 1875, and the comparisons are had as between the time prior to and since the passage of the law increasing his commissions, in other words, the law is of no financial benefit to him, and he has already, through your Committee, had introduced a bill to repeal the extra compensation, and your Committee join him in this recommendation.

The time of your Committee has not permitted them to examine into the fees of the office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore city, and they find, upon an examination of the law, that the officers of the various Courts, as to their appointment, removal, &c., is entirely under the control of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore city, a wise provision which