

Albert Mays, Arthur W. Shanklin, C. Lyon Rogers and N. Bosley Merryman, acting for and on their own behalf and as well on behalf of the personal representatives and heirs of Henry C. Hutchins, William Parks, Henry J. Hebb, George W. Morgan, Alfred Fowble and William B. Cochran, deceased, have petitioned for their release from any and all claims which the State of Maryland might otherwise have or maintain against them or any of them on account of fees and commissions collected by them as Treasurers of Baltimore County since April 5, 1878, down until the present time;

AND WHEREAS, It appears from an investigation of the facts and circumstances under which said fees and commissions were collected and retained by said Treasurers that fairness and justice require the release of such claims, if any such the State of Maryland may have, in that Chapter 494 of the Acts of 1878, and its amendments, under which said fees and commissions were collected, expressly provided that the same should be retained by said Treasurers for the services therein prescribed by them to be performed, and contained no intimation that the same should be accounted for to the State of Maryland; and for the further reason that since the enactment of said Chapter 494 of the Acts of 1878 all State taxes due and collectible in Baltimore County have been collected and turned over to the State of Maryland by said successive Treasurers without any deduction for the making of such collection, wherefore, the State has received a far greater net return from taxes due it in Baltimore County than it would have received under the law which was in force prior to the enactment of said Chapter 494 of the Acts of 1878, and for the further reason that the General Assembly of Maryland has since the enactment of said Act of 1878 by twelve separate laws duly enacted, acquiesced in the interpretation placed upon said Chapter 494 of the Acts of 1878 by said successive Treasurers with full knowledge that under said interpretation said Treasurers were retaining for their own use said fees and commissions, and said General Assembly by said subsequent enactments recognized the right of said Treasurers to the same in addition to the salary paid them by the County Commissioners of Baltimore County under the provisions of said Act; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That J. Harman Schone, George W. Yellott, G. Albert*