

The Speaker also laid before the house, the following communication from the committee on lotteries :

Office of Commissioners of Lotteries,
Baltimore, February 6th, 1841.

To C. S. Ridgely, Esq.

Speaker of the House of Delegates of Md.

Sir :—In compliance with the order of the House of Delegates of the 4th February, 1841, the commissioners of lotteries have to report that Messrs. D. S. Gregory & Co. are the contractors for the State lotteries, and we herewith transmit a copy of their bond for the payment of the guarantee required by law, and which includes "the payment of all prizes that may be drawn either in the State, or consolidated lotteries." As to "the means which they have taken to inform themselves of the sufficiency of such security." They have to state that when the present board of commissioners came into office, they found a contract made by their predecessors with the above house, dated 9th November, 1838, and who had been the contractors for the four previous years, and who faithfully fulfilled the same.

Previous to entering into a new contract for the fiscal year of 1839 and 1840, two of the undersigned proceeded to New York for the purpose of ascertaining the standing of the contractors for State lotteries, with a view of making a new contract, as there were no houses in Maryland engaged in that business. After the most diligent inquiry, they concluded the interest of the State would be best promoted by making another contract with the above house, whose capacity for the fulfilment of their engagements there can be no doubt, their perfect system, and rigid punctuality were such, that we have had no hesitation in forming new engagements with them.

D. S. Gregory and David Henderson, two of the contractors with the State, reside in Jersey city, in the State of New Jersey, where the lottery system is permitted by law. Archibald Robertson, one of the contractors, and Charles A. Rogers, the obligee, reside in Philadelphia, and the undersigned are not aware of any legal impediment in the way of recovery of the penalties of the bond should it become necessary, and which was submitted by us, to counsel, before it was executed.

The obligee is not in any way connected by "co-partnership or otherwise" with said contractors.

We also transmit a copy of the former license, and those issued under the present contract, the latter have been altered in compliance with the suggestions of the contractors expressed previous to the execution of the present contract, and are only different so far as the recital of the act of Assembly, session 1831 makes them.

We are sir, your obedient serv'ts.

M. McBlair,
S. P. Dickinson,
George Cooke,
Comms. of Lotteries.