

acts of those who have attempted its overthrow by violence, and it is only by the vigorous and successful prosecution of that war, upon the part of said Government, that the State of Maryland can be protected from hostile invasion, and the lives and property of her citizens preserved from destruction: *And whereas*, it is not only the duty of said State, but it is also an act of self-defence on her part, to provide the necessary means for paying her proportion of the expenses of said war; Therefore,

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Treasurer be and he is hereby authorized to issue, in the manner hereinafter prescribed, stock of the State of Maryland to an amount not exceeding two millions and a half of dollars, for a loan, to be called "The Maryland Defence Loan;" which stock shall be redeemable at the pleasure of the State, and until redeemed shall bear interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, on the first day of January and July in each and every year.

SEC. 2. And be it enacted, That one million and a quarter of dollars of said stock shall be reserved for the investment of the interest accruing from time to time on the Sinking Fund of the State; and on the first day of January, April July and October, in every year, and at whatever other times any interest of the said Sinking Fund may be payable, or standing to the credit of the Treasurer as trustee of that Fund, the Treasurer shall issue to himself, as trustee of that Fund, certificates of stock, at par, to the amount of said interest so payable or so standing to his credit as trustee of said Fund, and, on the warrant of the Comptroller, shall pass the amount so paid for said stock to the general credit of the State Treasury, to be applied to the payment of the State's proportion of the direct tax levied, or which may hereafter be levied, by the Congress of the United States, to provide for the expenses of the war now carried on to suppress rebellion and maintain the integrity of the Union; and the stock so purchased from time to time out of the interest of the Sinking Fund shall be added to the capital of said Fund, and the interest thereon shall be paid semi-annually, and the principal ultimately redeemed out of the proceeds of the tax hereinafter particularly pledged for the payment of principal and interest of the whole of said Maryland Defence Loan; and until the accruing interest on the said Sinking Fund shall have absorbed by such investments the full amount of one million and a quarter of dollars of said loan, it shall not be lawful for the Treasurer to purchase any other stocks for the investment of the interest of said Fund, unless before said full amount is so absorbed it shall become unnecessary to provide by loan any part of the means required to pay the said United States direct tax.