

January 1862 Tobacco Inspectors in office and discharging their duties according to the law as it existed before the passage of the Act referred to, and as a matter of necessity they have continued to act chiefly in accordance with said antecedent law at this time.

Your early attention to this subject is therefore obviously necessary, either in executing the Act of 1860, restoring the previous law or providing a new one, and to confirm the proceedings of the Inspectors for the last four years so far as they have been governed by a law that apparently has no present existence.

I would recommend also some modification in the law providing for the Inspection of Grain. That law allows in certain cases the option to the grain owner or his agent to sell his grain without inspection or weighing by the State Inspectors, which privilege, as I am informed, has led to the introduction of a class of grain weighers having no connection whatever with the State, and who act independently of the Inspectors appointed by it. If there be a necessity for the inspection or weighing of grain at all, and it is deemed advisable that the same should be made under the supervision of State officers, it should be like all other inspections *exclusively* under their direction; and to permit others to engage in the same business without the authority of or any responsibility to the State, not only deprives it of the revenue which such an inspection would otherwise yield, but is calculated to defeat the chief object of the inspection itself.

In consequence of these two classes of inspectors or weighers thus at present employed, the Grain Inspection instead of yielding a considerable revenue to the State does not afford enough to remunerate the Inspector.

I would, therefore, advise either that the law requiring the inspection and weighing of grain be repealed altogether, or that it be otherwise so modified as to require all grain coming to market, except when brought in small lots by wagon, etc., to be weighed and inspected exclusively by the officers whom the State appoints.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The Managers of the House of Refuge who by their charter are required to make an annual report to the General Assembly—that body not being in session in January 1863—filed at that time their report for the previous year in this Department, and it is herewith submitted. This Institution continues to grow in favor with the people of the State, and has in all respects fulfilled the expectations of its founders. The amount of the annual appropriation, which for the last three