

REPORT.

The committee to whom was referred the order of the House directing an enquiry to be made, as to what retrenchment, (if any) could be made in the current expenses of the State, have had the same under consideration, and submit the following

REPORT:

That in the examination they have found abundant reason to believe that great retrenchment in the current expenses of the State might be made without injuriously affecting any of its interests. But owing to the difficulty of ascertaining the number and salaries of the various officers of the State, they find it no easy matter to specify the particular items in which such reductions should be made; the committee find that the mode of payment varies with almost every office—some receiving fixed salaries—some partly fixed, and partly contingent—some being paid by the day, and others by fees, exclusively, so that there is no possible mode at hand by which, to ascertain the actual expenses of the State Government.

The committee believe that there are some officers which might be dispensed with, without the slightest inconvenience to the public interests, they would instance those of Lottery Commissioner, of Adjutant General, and Examiner Generals of the Land Offices, Treasurer and Judge of the Land Office of the Eastern Shore, and the Armorer of Frederick county, &c.

The committee believe that one Commissioner of Lotteries would be amply sufficient to discharge the duties of the present board, and that one thousand dollars would be adequate compensation for his services, and the State would save in this item about five thousand dollars per annum, and they believe that the office of Adjutant General might well, and ought to be merged in that of Armorer of the State, who might with the utmost ease, and without any additional charge to the State, perform the duties of both offices; that the duties now performed by the Examiner Generals of the Land Offices might be equally well performed by the clerks of said offices who could attend to the small amount of business transacted by those officers, for the fees now paid. And that the Treasurer of the