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Under the amended constitution, the Governor is elected by the people for the term of three years, and is required to appoint annually, with the consent of the Senate, a Secretary of State, who are both required to reside at the seat of government. The salary of Governor, since the amended constitution went into effect, has been \$4,200. and that of the Secretary of State \$2,000, making the cost of this department, under the amended constitution \$6,200. By the law of the last session, the salary of the Governor, after the first of January, 1848, is reduced to \$3,000, and that of the Secretary of State, after the first of January 1847, to \$1,000, and the question which I submit for your consideration & decision is, whether efficient Executive officers can be procured for those salaries.

No one, who has not thoroughly examined the present revenue system of the State, can appreciate the labour, which is now imposed upon the State Executive. If you will reflect, that the annual revenue from an hundred different sources now amounts to about one million of dollars, and that the operations of the whole of this complicated system of taxation, is placed by law under the supervision of the Executive, you will readily conclude, that the individual who will now faithfully discharge the duties attached to the office, will have no leisure for other pursuits, and that the successful discharge of those duties, will now require the entire time of a man of energy, firmness and established business habits. If you reflect, that the salary by this law attached to the office, will entail pecuniary loss upon the person, who shall hereafter be elected by the people, as their Chief Executive Officer, it is manifest, that it excludes from competition for the office all those who are successfully engaged in any profession or business, and will confine it, for the future, to men of wealth and leisure. Put apart from this view of this subject, if we consider the practical effect of this retrenchment, upon the individual citizen, and find that his whole property is a species, at ten thousand dollars, will only save, by this reduction in the salary of his Governor and Secretary of State, the enormous sum of fifteen cents, you cannot (if you throw out of view the probable consequent incompetency of the officer,) believe that the people of Maryland can be brought for such a consideration to approve a law, by which, they will be deprived the privilege, of selecting any other than a man of wealth, as their Chief Executive Officer, without entailing upon the man of their choice, certain pecuniary embarrassment. No, gentlemen, I am persuaded, that such is not the genius or disposition, of the people of Maryland; they have pride in their State, and their government, and will never approve of legislation tending to cast degradation upon either.

In discharge of the duty imposed on me by the acts of 1827 chapter 140, and 1839 chapter 28, the vouchers will show that there has been expended within the past year, for the education of the indigent blind, the sum of \$66,700, and for the education of the indigent deaf & dumb, the sum of \$1,292.50.

By the act of 1845, chapter 97, it was made my duty to purchase a lot of ground in the City of Baltimore, and to contract for the building of a Tobacco Warehouse, capable of containing six thousand hogsheads. I have purchased a lot, & made a contract for the building which is now being erected, and I will transmit for your information and inspection, the deed, contract, &c. which I hope will meet your approbation.

I will also send for your information copies of letters addressed by me (under resolutions No. 14, of the last legislature) to the Governor of Pennsylvania.