

expired, I have looked over the several acts upon the subject of State Lotteries, in which there has been such frequent and great changes that it is perhaps difficult to ascertain the duties they now impose upon the Lottery Commissioners and upon the Executive of the State. From the examination and consideration I have given the subject, I have come to the conclusion, (in which it is very possible, however, that I am mistaken) that it is the act of 1824 chapter 191 that requires the accounts and vouchers to be transmitted to the Executive.

By that act it is made the duty of the Commissioners "so soon as they have fixed upon ~~the~~ a scheme of a Lottery to transmit to the Governor and Council a copy of said scheme, there to be preserved;" and also "after the expiration of sixty days after the conclusion of the drawing of any of said Lotteries to pay the prizes &c. on demand, and after deducting all the expenses of drawing said Lottery to transmit an account thereof to the Governor and Council; and upon the same being approved and passed to forthwith pay over to the Treasurer of the Western Shore, the residue of the proceeds of such Lottery; and also to report to the Governor and Council on or before the end of twenty days after the expiration of twelve months, if the drawing of any Lottery, the numbers and amount of the prizes which have not been demanded by the holder thereof, and which agreeably to the scheme are forfeited; and upon the said report being approved and passed by the Governor and Council to forthwith pay to the Treasurer of the Western Shore the amount of prizes so remaining unclaimed;" and also to "transmit to the Governor and Council, at the end of every month, or as soon as they shall require, an account of the money, notes, bills, bonds and other securities, received and deposited by them." And the act of 1825 Chapter 231 makes it their duty to "deposit all money, notes, bills, bonds and other securities, received by them, in their public character as Commissioners of Lotteries, in such Banks as the Governor and Council shall annually approve, and that all payments to individuals or to the Treasurer of the Western Shore shall be made by checks drawn by the said Commissioners, in their official character, as such;" and to make return of such deposits and effects, quarterly, to the Treasurer of the Western Shore. I do not find in the subsequent acts any repeal or modification of the duties prescribed by those I have quoted.

I believe the foregoing comprise all the material duties which the Lottery Laws impose on the Commissioners, in reference to the accounts and management of the funds; which being the under the Super-intendance of the Governor and Council. If I am right in my conclusion upon this subject, it is clear that the requisitions of the Laws have not, for a considerable time past, been complied with by the Commissioners. The schemes have not been regularly transmitted "so soon as fixed upon;" nor the accounts, within the time contemplated after drawings; nor have reports been regularly made, on or before the end of twenty days after the expiration of twelve months after the drawings, of the numbers and amounts of prizes which have not been demanded by the holder, and which agreeably to the scheme are forfeited.

In making the foregoing representation it is far from any intention to impute the highest blame to the Commissioners or any one else. For two or three years past the Lottery business has been in such