

My dear Sir

By the act of the last session Chap. 461 Sec. 2<sup>d</sup> the Commissioners of Lotteries may, with the approbation of the Gov. pay out of monies received for stamps on licenses, such sum as they may deem necessary for the detection & punishment of frauds upon or violations of the Lottery laws. Before the passage of this act the Commissioners of Lotteries were required to prosecute all offences against the various Lottery laws, but no provision whatever was made, or so far as I can learn authority given for the payment of any costs or other expenses growing out of those prosecutions. These expenses have heretofore been very heavy & have been paid out of moneys raised for the several grants & the solitary fine which has been collected - frauds upon the system affecting not only the grants, but the revenue of the State, are every day perpetrated in this city, by the sale of tickets & other dealings with negroes by negroes who are Agents for white men & by white men themselves. We cannot induce Police Officers to engage in the detection of these offenders, relying for their compensation solely upon the portion of the fine allowed them by the law, for many, more than a hundred of those who are engaged in this business are unable to pay the fine if convicted. I hence the necessity of making some contract with the Police assuming to them a fair compensation for such services as they may render.

If you will be in Baltimore shortly any action in the premises may be postponed until I can confer personally with you on the subject, if not I hope you will authorize the Commissioners to make contract as they may deem necessary to arrest these proceedings.

With great respect I am

Your friend & Servant

(Signed) S. C. Chapman

Office Commissioners of Lotteries  
Baltimore August 27<sup>th</sup> 1850

Enclosure  
The Government  
of Maryland