

with that request. It seems that the sum so advanced included "one quarter's income from Maryland Lotteries, from 1st March to 1st June," or the sum of \$3,750, not payable, agreeably to the contract, (see Document C herewith) until the commencement of the quarter.

It also shows that the old commissioners retained, on said sum, 10 per cent each, or together \$1,125 as commission to be shared among them; and also 10 per cent each, or together \$3,067 50, as commissions to be shared among them, out of the sum of \$10,225, amount of tax received for the use of the State, on licenses to vendors of lottery tickets, which licenses were issued for one year, from the 1st of December 1838.

The two sums so retained by the old Lottery Commissioners, as for commission to themselves, amount to \$4,192 50.

If those late officers were not entitled to retain those two sums, then the amount of their commission, instead of being \$5,317 50, as charged in the quarter's account referred to in a communication from the Executive, dated the 4th of March 1839, [see file of printed documents] should have been only \$1,125; or instead of \$1,772 50 each, only \$375 each; and then only in case it were certain that their retaining of any commission whatever in that quarter would not have been inconsistent with the law which limits the compensation that they may receive in any one year to the sum of \$2,000.

In the report made by the late commissioners of lotteries addressed to the House of Delegates over the date of 21st of February last [see file of printed Documents] they state that by the act of December session, 1831, "They are entitled to receive in lieu of any salary, 10 per centum each, as their compensation, on all sums thereafter raised by the State lottery system; not to exceed in any one year \$2,000 each. That they have accordingly received \$6,000 each, within the last three years, as their lawful compensation, having raised in each of said years, a sum exceeding \$20,000."

The tabular statement to which they refer, does not distinguish what sum in each year was derived from the tax on licenses to vendors of tickets, and what in each year was the sum raised by the sale of schemes of lotteries drawn by said commissioners. The annual period for their accounting with the State Treasurer, was on the 30th of November, that being the last day of the fiscal year; but it is presumed that the official year of the commissioners commenced and terminated always with their commission, which had to be renewed annually.

The act of 1831, before mentioned, fixes the commission to be allowed to, and retained by each commissioner residing in the city of Baltimore, at 10 per centum "upon the amount raised by the lottery system; provided, that the said compensation shall in no event exceed the sum of \$2,000 each, in any one year."

It has been seen that the appointment of the late commissioners of lotteries was made on the 27th of January 1838; and from an account accompanying the Executive communication [see file of