

and that *three fourths* thereof was received by their successors; or themselves as officers for the year 1833

The whole sum which they paid to the treasury in that year having been \$23,909 50, to the end of the fiscal year, it is plain that their whole commission, to the utmost extent of the sum limited therefor by law, were realized by them for 1833, within the period of that fiscal year which ended on the 30th of November 1833.

Now, as the report of the late commissioners states the payments into the treasury since that time to have exceeded \$20 000 in *every fiscal year*; and that they have *annually* received thereon, (that is to say in *each* of the years 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837 & 1838) the sum of \$6000 for their compensation, or \$30 000 in all for the 5 years, and *all that* too had been actually received by them before the 8th of March 1833;—it necessarily follows that *each* one of them, the said late commissioners, had for the last five years during which he had been commissioned to act, received and sometimes too in advance, the full compensation of \$2000 to which he was *limited* by law.

But according to the papers accompanying the before mentioned Executive Message, and confirmed by a certified statement of their own clerk, each one of said late commissioners for 1838, has received not only \$2000 as above mentioned, but also \$1772.50 *over and above* that sum, and so much beyond the limit prescribed by law.

Or to exhibit the same, if possible in a still clearer point of view, it may be stated that, *after* the time that the late commissioners received their full compensation for 1833, they were *annually* re-appointed during 5 years, *viz.*

On the 4th of February, 1834,

9th do. 1835,

19th do. 1836,

17th of March, 1837,

24th of January, 1838, for the *last time*;

other persons having been lawfully commissioned in their places on the 29th January, 1839

Under their appointments, during the 5 years aforesaid, the late commissioners might, by giving to the law the most liberal construction that could possibly be claimed for them, have been entitled to \$30,000 in all, or \$10 000 each, and *no more*; but they appear to have retained for their compensation \$35 317 50 in all, or \$11,772 50 each; which being divided by 5 years, would be an average annual compensation of \$2,354 50, instead of \$2000, the sum limited by law

It is plain that down to the year 1837 *inclusive*, the late commissioners had received full compensation; and that *since* then they have received \$3,772 50 each instead of \$2000, making an excess of \$1,772 50 each.

The year 1831 and 1832 cannot enter into any fair statement of average of annual compensation, because the law authorising a commission of 10 per cent did not take effect until some time in 1832.

Even under that law only one of the commissioners was requi-