

[B.]

Office of Commissioners of Lotteries,
Baltimore, March 7th, 1839.

Sir:—Mr. Cooke having been able to reach the city, we have for a few days had a full board, and now deem it proper to confirm the protest of M. McBlair and S. S. Dickinson, of 1st instant, respecting charges of commission, made by the late commissioners in their accounts for the quarter ending 28th ult., which were transmitted you on 1st inst. After a deliberate examination of the same, we feel more and more justified in objecting to a full commission on the amount received for licences, of 10 per cent for each commissioner on \$10,225, making \$3,067 50. because these licenses were granted for one year from 1st Dec. 1838, and those gentlemen only attended to the duties required, one fourth of the year. We likewise are satisfied, they have no claim whatever, to a commission on \$3,750, one quarter's income for Maryland lotteries from 1st March to 1st June, of 10 per cent for each commissioner, amounting to \$1,125 of the contract and copy of the ninth article, now sent makes it payable at the commencement of each quarter. You are apprised of a majority of us having on the 18th ult, notified them of our having bonded and qualified, and ready to enter on the duties, on the 19th they called on the agent of the contractors here, to anticipate the payment for March, when he promised to do so next day and which he did, we conceive they had no power to do so after our notification, and certainly have not a shadow of claim to a particle of commission, as they have rendered no service whatever during this quarter.

Be assured of our regret that in this early stage of our duties, we should be obliged to give trouble to the Governor and yourself, and requesting you will submit this letter to him.

We have the honor to be, sir,

your obd't. serv'ts.

M. McBLAIR,
S. S. DICKINSON,
GEO. COOKE.