



REPORT.

The committee on lotteries, to whom was referred the communication from the present lottery commissioners, bearing date the 31st December, 1839, beg leave to report that they have fully inquired into the several matters to which their attention was called in the said communication, and will briefly give the results of their examination:—That previously to the year 1832, the lottery commissioners were salaried officers, receiving one thousand dollars per annum each, without any reference to what amount might be raised per annum for the Treasury of the State. That the act of 1831, chap. 79, which became a law on the 8th February, 1832, changed the amount and mode of compensation, and by its 6th section, provided, “*that one, at least, of the said commissioners shall reside in the city of Baltimore; and in lieu of the salary heretofore paid to said commissioners, the commissioner or commissioners residing in the said city shall hereafter be entitled to receive at the rate of ten per centum, and the said commissioners residing in the county, at the rate of seven and a half per centum each, upon the amount raised by the lottery system: provided that the compensation to the commissioner or commissioners residing in said city, shall in no event exceed the sum of two thousand dollars each in any one year: and the compensation to the commissioners residing in the county, in no event to exceed the sum of fifteen hundred dollars each, in any one year.*”

The committee have carefully examined the quarterly accounts of Messrs. Stuart, Hughes and Williams, the former lottery commissioners, from 1831 down to February 28th, 1839, and although they can find in said accounts no statement of the residence of said commissioners, the committee are led to infer that they all resided in the city of Baltimore, as they deducted the highest compensation of \$2,000 each, per annum. The committee would here remark, that although the compensation to the lottery commissioners was made by the law of 1831 to depend upon the amount raised by the lottery system, giving them a per centum, not, however, to exceed \$2,000 per annum each, it was yet a compensation for services to be performed throughout the whole year, in signing tickets, superintending the drawing of lotteries, &c., and was not to be considered as earned by the mere granting of the lottery licenses or the sale of schemes for the ensuing year.