

furnish the data from which a correct estimate may be formed of the revenue which would be derived from this law, if made to embrace all the instruments upon which the law practically operated prior to the decision of the Court of Appeals.

The Treasurer's Report will, I suppose, furnish you the receipts from this law for the first twenty days ending on the 1st of June ; and taking this as the basis of calculation, you will see, that the revenue for the entire year from a law embracing the instruments which were for this period practically included in the operations of the law, would exceed the sum of \$100,000.

I cannot, in any other way, so succinctly suggest most of the amendments to this law, which, in my judgment, should be adopted, as by referring to the decision of the Court of Appeals, and expressing my conviction, that an amendment which would specifically embrace each and all of the instruments which are decided by the court to be *excluded* by the *phraseology* of the existing law, would receive the almost universal approval of the people, and would double the revenue which is derived from this law as it now stands.

I have received from various sources the suggestion that lottery tickets should be subjected to the provisions of this act. If you can, without danger to the existing revenue which is derived from the lottery system, require that each lottery ticket which shall be hereafter *sold* in this State shall be stamped, and pay ten cents, it would certainly add very much to the revenue which would be derived from this measure, and would, I believe, be applauded by all classes of the community. I am satisfied that no constitutional objection exists to the legislation suggested, unless such an objection may be founded upon the present contract entered into by the Lottery Commissioners of the State, for the drawings of the present year. I have not seen the contract, and have been only informed in reference to it, that it secures to the State for the present fiscal year a sum of \$20,000, which is more than double the amount received from this source for the past year. If, upon an examination of the contract, you should be of opinion that the provisions of the Stamp Act could not be extended to the sale of lottery tickets during the continuance of this contract, no constitutional impediment can interpose to prevent the adoption of such a provision, to take effect from and after the 1st of December next, the period at which, I believe, the present contract will expire.

It has been estimated by those *who should be* conversant with the subject, that the number of lottery tickets sold in the State during the past year, exceeded one million. If the number sold would be lessened by reason of the imposition of this tax of ten cents upon each ticket, a *great moral result* (unaccomplished by your predecessors when legislating, especially for that purpose,) will have been attained ; and, if the number sold would not be diminished by the tax, you would still have *consolation* in the reflection, that by placing one hundred thousand dollars additional revenue in the Treasury, every one whose money has been loaned