

passed in the year eighteen hundred and forty, they reduced the tonage duties and placed a certain rate of taxes upon goods, wares and merchandise landed upon said wharves the State wharfingers continued to collect only the tonage duties, and by reference to the laws upon this subject it will be found that the Legislature passed a law in 1841, prohibiting the ordinances of 1839 and 1840, from applying to the State wharves. The consequence is, the revenue of the State is much less than that charged and collected by the city, and considerable less to the State from this source, and much inconvenience and trouble to the wharfinger, and to vessels engaged in the tobacco trade from other vessels resorting to the public wharves to land or take in freight at much less expense than they would be liable to, were they to resort to the city wharves for that purpose, under these circumstances, your committee recommend the repeal of the act of 1841, and thereby, placing the State's wharves on the same footing with those of the city of Baltimore,—both as to the collection of tonage duties, and the rates of taxes laid upon goods, wares and merchandise, as regulated by the ordinances of 1839 and 1840, at the same time reserving to the boats engaged in the Tobacco trade, all the privileges, they now enjoy, by virtue of the various enactments now in force. Your committee, think it advisable, and would recommend that a certain portion of the public wharves, adjacent to the Tobacco inspection houses should be set apart for the use of the Tobacco boats, when they come in port, to the exclusion of all other vessels differently laden, that is to say, two hundred feet in front of each inspection house, and that such portion of said wharves so set apart should be placed under the control of the inspectors in order that due facilities may be given to the landing of tobacco designed for inspection at said houses; and they also recommend with a view to facilitate the landing of tobacco and the increase of the revenue from said wharves that, whenever an inspector shall furnish a birth for a tobacco boat that the master of said boat shall loose no time in landing his cargo, nor should he land any portion thereof, and then go elsewhere to land other freight, and afterwards return to the same birth to the exclusion of other vessels, but in all cases he should be obliged to land the whole of his tobacco cargo before leaving said wharf or loose his right to the same birth to the exclusion of other boats. In view of the foregoing facts connected with the public wharves and tobacco warehouses; your committee would recommend the passage of the accompanying bill in reference to the same.

All which is respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL WORTHINGTON, Chairman,

Select Committee, appointed to examine into the condition of the State Tobacco Warehouses.