

We consider the drawing of small schemes, with all practicable celerity of succession, as essentially calculated to reduce the hazard, and to promote the public interest, both in augmenting avails from this resource, and in tending to lessen the enormous evil of foreign tickets—And with a view to these results, the contingent commission of five per centum, is held to be a salutary provision.

With regard to the proposed inhibition of any drawing, until the whole of the tickets shall have been sold; we apprehend that it would mainly destroy the sole design of the state lotteries; and, in effect, increase the evil which we have sedulously endeavoured to abate—and we conceive that, in this particular, the public interest may be sufficiently protected by the exercise of a sound discretion, on the part of the commissioners, in connection with their own interest—And the proposed allowance of eight per centum on sales of tickets, would also, in our estimation, operate injuriously—we even doubt the policy of allowing any discount whatever; such, we understand, is the practice in other states;—and having the exclusive monopoly, and being virtually compelled by circumstances, to entertain a pernicious means of public income, we are bound to make it as productive as possible.

Your last proposition is dependent upon, and will share the fate of the second.

Having devoted to this difficult subject much consideration, and having laboriously assayed to improve the system, we request that your honourable body will recede from your second, third and fourth amendments, and return the bill, with the first, in which we have concurred.

By order,

Gideon Pearce, Clerk.

The 3d amendment was also receded from.

Mr. Dennis offered the following message:

By the Senate, March 12th, 1827.

Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,

We have received your message on the subject of the bill entitled, 'an act requiring the commissioners of lotteries to give bond,' and will agree to recede from the amendments to which you are opposed; Provided, you will amend the same by adding in lieu of the amendments you oppose in your message, the following additional section to the bill, viz: