

1824

no. 32

The joint committee of both houses, appointed to consider whether any, and if any, what reduction may be made in the salaries of the officers, and retrenchment in the expenses of the Government, have had the subject under consideration, and in reviewing the circumstances of the times, the fiscal concerns of the Commonwealth, the ability of the people to support, by pecuniary aids, official establishments, are unanimously of opinion that a plan of retrenchment in the public expenditures ought to be forthwith instituted and persevered in; but while your committee on the one hand are perfectly satisfied that many expenditures of the Commonwealth may be with propriety lessened, they on the other, have not forgotten that responsible and faithful officers of the Government are worthy of honourable and sufficient rewards—Guided by views of this description, in the conclusions to which they have arrived, they flatter themselves that they have avoided in regard to the several salaries they have considered, prodigality on the one side, and parsimony on the other.—If in times past the prosperous condition of the community has enhanced the price of living among us, and induced the Legislature to encrease in some measure the stipends of their public servants, in order to enable them to keep pace with the times; it is now equally plain that the present times, at least, recommend the reductions which your committee have deemed expedient.—In making these reductions, we have not at present taken into view the salaries of some of our Judicial officers, nor of the Warden of the State Prison, because those subjects have been already assigned

distinctly to the consideration of other committees. As far, however, as we have had authority to proceed, without interfering with the province of others, we have endeavoured to perform the duty assigned to us, and we ask leave as the result of our deliberations, to report a bill. All which is respectfully submitted.

JONATHAN ALLEN, *per order.*

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**Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

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In the year of our Lord Eighteen Hundred and  
Twenty Four.

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**AN ACT**

*To establish the salaries of certain officers therein  
named.*

SEC. 1. **BE** it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the following be established as the annual salaries of the officers hereinafter named, to commence from the last Wednesday in May next, and to be paid hereafter in quarterly payments. The Governor of the Commonwealth, Three Thousand Dollars. The Secretary and the

Treasurer and Receiver General of the Commonwealth, Eighteen Hundred Dollars each. The Adjutant General, Twelve Hundred Dollars. The Clerk in the office of the Adjutant General, Eight Hundred Dollars. The Attorney General and the Solicitor General, Seventeen Hundred Dollars each. The first Clerk in the Secretary's and Treasurer's office, One Thousand Dollars each. The second Clerk in the same, Seven Hundred Dollars each.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That all laws heretofore made, so far as they are inconsistent with the foregoing, be and the same are hereby repealed.

