

INCREASE OF THE SALARIES OF THE OFFICERS OF GOVERNMENT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, MARCH 22, 1816.

Mr. FROMENTIN made the following report:

The committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the salaries of all the officers of Government beg leave to report:

That, from the most thorough investigation by them bestowed on the subject referred to them, they can have no hesitation in recommending an increase of salary to all the officers of Government mentioned in the bill which accompanies, and which they pray may be considered as part of this their report. By contrasting the prices of all the necessaries of life at the time at which the salaries of the officers of Government were first fixed with the prices now to be given for the same necessary articles, your committee are satisfied that the expenses of living have been increased in a proportion much greater than the increase contemplated in the bill now submitted to the Senate. At the same time, therefore, that they were persuaded an addition was to be made to the salaries of the officers of Government, they entertained doubts as to the amount of augmentation which it might be proper for them to recommend, having a due regard both to the necessities of the officers to be provided for, and to the principles of a wise and prudent economy. From these doubts your committee feel themselves relieved by the principle of augmentation established in the act lately passed to change the mode of compensating the members of Congress.

From the year 1789, when the Government first went into operation, to the end of the thirteenth Congress, it appears, by a reference to the journals, that Congress have been in session four thousand one hundred and forty-eight days; which number of days, divided by twenty-six, the whole number of years which have elapsed from the beginning of the first to the end of the thirteenth Congress, gives for each year an average number of one hundred and fifty-nine days and a fraction during which Congress have been in session, without making any mention of the additional number of days during which the Senate have been occasionally called upon to sit on executive business.

Had the compensation of members of Congress then been, as it now is, at the rate of \$1,500 per annum, instead of six dollars per day, they would have received nine dollars and a fraction, making the increase to their salary, as fixed by the act to change the mode of compensating the members of Congress, about fifty per cent. over the sum at which it was originally fixed in the year 1790—an increase, however, still reduced somewhat below fifty per cent., as no alteration has taken place in the mileage.

Fifty per cent., then, being about the increase made by Congress to the compensation of their own members, may be fairly considered as the standard by which the salaries of the officers of Government ought to be now regulated; and the committee would have reported to you a resolution to that effect had there been no occasional increase of salary to some of the officers whose compensation was originally fixed in the year 1790, and had there not been several offices created since with rather more adequate salaries.

These circumstances preclude, on the part of the committee, the possibility of a compliance with a strict adherence to the principle of increase in every case in absolutely the same exact proportion. Your committee were further induced to sacrifice unimportant fractions to the advantage resulting from adopting a mode of compensation amounting to a round sum. With this view of the subject referred to them, and without losing altogether sight of the principle adopted by Congress in the act providing for the increase of their own compensation, your committee beg leave to add that, except in a few cases, where, from the considerations above mentioned, they have reported below the increase of fifty per cent., they have rather generally gone beyond than remained below the principle of an increase of fifty per cent. to the salaries as they were originally fixed in the year 1790.

A bill providing for the increase of the salaries of the officers of Government therein mentioned.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in lieu of the salaries formerly allowed to the officers of Government mentioned in this act, there shall be allowed to them from the 1st day of January, 1816, the following annual salaries, payable quarterly, at the Treasury of the United States, to wit:

To the Secretary of State, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$6,000
To the Secretary of the Treasury, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000
To the Secretary of War, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000
To the Secretary of the Navy, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000
To the Attorney General, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000
To the Comptroller, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000
To the Postmaster General, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000
To the Auditor, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,500
To the Treasurer, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,500
To the Commissioner of the General Land Office, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,500
To the Commissioner of the Revenue, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,500
To the Register, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,500
To the Accountant of War, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,000
To the Accountant of the Navy, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,000
To the Paymaster of the Army, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,000
To the Governors of the several Territories, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,500
To the Secretaries of the several Territories, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To a minister plenipotentiary and envoy extraordinary to the courts of Paris, London, and St. Petersburg, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000
To a minister plenipotentiary and envoy extraordinary to any other court, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,000
To a minister resident, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,600
To a chargé des affaires, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,500
To a secretary of legation, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,500

To the Chief Justice of the United States,	-	-	-	-	-	\$6,000
To the associate justices of the Supreme Court,	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
To the chief justice of the District of Columbia,	-	-	-	-	-	3,000
To the associate justices of the District of Columbia,	-	-	-	-	-	2,500
To the district judge for the district of Maine,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the district judge for New Hampshire,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the district judge for Vermont,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the district judge for Massachusetts,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for Rhode Island,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the district judge for Connecticut,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the district judges for New York, each,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for New Jersey,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the district judge for Pennsylvania,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for Delaware,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the district judge for Maryland,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for Virginia,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for Kentucky,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for Tennessee,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for Ohio,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the district judge for North Carolina,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for South Carolina,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for Georgia,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
To the district judge for Louisiana,	-	-	-	-	-	3,500
To the judges of the several Territories, each,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the Secretary of the Senate,	-	-	-	-	-	2,500
To the Clerk of the House of Representatives,	-	-	-	-	-	2,500
To the principal clerk in the office of the Secretary of the Senate,	-	-	-	-	-	1,750
To each of the engrossing clerks in the office of the Secretary of the Senate,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the principal clerk in the office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives,	-	-	-	-	-	1,750
To each of the engrossing clerks in the office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500
To the chaplain to the Senate, at the rate of \$1,000 per annum.	-	-	-	-	-	
To the chaplain to the House of Representatives, at the rate of \$1,000 per annum.	-	-	-	-	-	

14th Congress.]

No. 406.

[1st Session.]

CUMBERLAND ROAD.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MARCH 23, 1816.

Mr. JACKSON, from the committee to whom was referred the message of the President of the United States of the 12th instant, transmitting a report of the Secretary of the Treasury containing a statement of proceedings under the act to regulate the laying out and making a road from Cumberland, in the State of Maryland, to the State of Ohio, with a statement of past appropriations, and an estimate of required appropriations, reported:

That they have attentively considered the subject confided to them, and respectively submit to the House the following facts and observations:

It appears, by an act of Congress, passed on the 1st of May, 1802, entitled "An act to enable the people of the eastern division of the Territory northwest of the river Ohio to form a constitution and State Government, and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, and for other purposes," that, on condition that the convention of the said State would provide, by an ordinance irrevocable without the consent of the United States, that each tract of land sold by Congress after the 30th June next ensuing shall be and remain exempt from any tax laid by order or under the authority of the State, whether for State, county, township, or for any other purpose whatever, for the term of five years from and after the day of sale, the United States, among other stipulations, agreed to apply one-twentieth part of the nett proceeds arising from the sales of said lands, from and after the said 30th of June, to the laying out and making public roads leading from the navigable waters emptying into the Atlantic, to the Ohio, in the said State, and through the same; such roads to be laid out under the authority of Congress, with the consent of the several States through which the same shall pass. It further appears that these conditions were accepted by the State of Ohio on the 29th of November, in the same year, subject, as regards the road fund, to a modification which provides that three per cent. of the nett proceeds arising from the sales aforesaid should be subject to the control of the Legislature of that State, and be applied to making roads within the same. It also appears, by an act passed on the 3d of March, 1803, that this modification received the sanction of Congress; and that, in pursuance of this compact, a law was passed on the 29th of March, 1806, authorizing the President of the United States to appoint commissioners to lay out a road from Cumberland, or a point within its vicinity, to the river Ohio, and on their report to pursue such measures as, in his opinion, were proper to obtain from the States through which the said road was laid out their consent to its location and completion.

It further appears to the committee that the location crossing portions of the States of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, applications were made to their respective Legislatures, and permission was given by each, to open and establish the said road.