

sion to which both have come, is, that twenty-five thousand dollars would not at all exceed what may be set down as necessary.

The Commissioners neither ask nor will receive compensation for their services, but such a collection of the arts, manufactures, and products of the soil and mine of the State, as their appointment contemplates, does not make itself, nor can the interest, or the opportunities of individuals, be relied on to furnish it. It must be gathered by special agencies, and these must be paid.

It must not be distributed sporadically through the vast halls that have been erected, a roll of cotton-duck in one place, a case of shoes in another, copper from the bare hills in another, iron from Alleghany in another, models of the fish of Maryland, here, specimens of the woods, there—all should be collected, arranged, classified and attended in one place, a work requiring intelligence of a high order, which must also be paid for; and when the Maryland collection is complete, it should be in charge of one or more persons capable of describing it properly, and securing for it that consideration, among the tens of thousands of visitors, which will be its due, if Maryland does herself justice. Then it must be watched, and labor, more or less, in connection therewith, will be necessary during the entire exhibition, and in disposing of the articles exhibited, and removing them when the exhibition is over.

Clerical services also will be wanted to keep the accounts of expenditures and attend to correspondence with exhibitors from Maryland, and others, and in addition, must be paid for.

Willing as the Commissioners might be, they would be utterly incompetent, even physically, to do a tithe of what would be necessary in these various respects.

Then again it has seemed to the Commissioners, after obtaining information upon the spot, that the proper transaction of what may be called the business of their appointment, requires that there should be a temporary building, reputable in appearance, for the offices of those whom the Commissioners might employ, which might be used by the Governor and such State officials as might have occasion to resort to it, during the continuance of the Exhibition, and which should also contain one or more reception rooms for the visitors from Maryland, where they might feel they had a right to be, and over which the flag of Maryland should at all times be flying.

To those who have never visited the Centennial grounds, it may seem strange that all this preparation is suggested even,