

the Treasury are such as to require the strictest economy on the part of the General Assembly. I therefore bespeak from your Honorable Bodies a rigid scrutiny of all questionable claims on the State Treasury, and the utmost care to guard against unnecessary appropriations.

Provision ought to be made by law for conducting the Department, in case of illness or necessary absence of the Comptroller from Annapolis, by authorizing him in such case, to appoint in writing his Chief Clerk, to discharge the duties of Comptroller *pro tem.*, and for all the acts of said deputy, while so acting, the bond of the Comptroller should be answerable in the same manner and extent as for his personal acts. As the office is at present organized, a severe illness of the incumbent would entirely arrest the regular business of the Department. A similar recommendation was made many years ago by the present Governor of the State, when Comptroller, and has probably been made since, but no law has yet been enacted to provide for such emergency.

This subject, in view of the increased business of the Department, and the great inconvenience to the public which might occur, for want of such a provision, ought not to be deferred by your Honorable Bodies

Respectfully submitted,

LEVIN WOOLFORD,

*Comptroller of the Treasury.*