

The present Constitution declares, that the State Librarian shall be elected by the joint vote of the two branches of the General Assembly for four years, &c. That language applies to this General Assembly, and to the State Librarian who shall *commence* to hold and exercise that office after this Constitution is adopted.

The term of office for such a State Librarian must be for *four* years, the term claimed by the present incumbent, to commence after the adoption of this Constitution, is for *two* years; he therefore can claim the right to hold no such term under the present Constitution.

My opinion, therefore, is in favor of "the legal propriety of electing a State Librarian during the present session of the Legislature."

Respectfully, &c.,

A. RANDALL,

Atty. Gen'l of Md.

SECOND SUBJECT SUBMITTED.

As to the constitutionality of increasing the salary or compensation of Clerks, Registers of Wills or other judicial officers:

On an examination of the Constitution, it will be found that the following sections prohibit the General Assembly from increasing the salary or compensation of officers as follows:

Article 3, section 34, declares, "nor shall the salary or compensation of any public officer be increased or diminished during his term of office."

Article 4, section 28, declares, "that the salary of the Judges of the Circuit Courts shall not be increased or diminished during their continuance in office."

Article 7, section 4, declares, "that the Legislature shall pass no law whereby the Librarian shall receive any additional compensation, and that the following sections require or allow the General Assembly to prescribe or change the salary or compensation of officers, as follows:"

Article 4, section 10, declares, "the General Assembly shall fix the salary of the officers of the Court appointed by the Judges."