

The gross receipts from the tobacco warehouses, were \$91,546.29, and their expenses, \$74,251.49, leaving their net earnings, \$17,294.80, out of which, deduct the salaries paid to the five inspectors, \$9,000, and the balance of \$8,294.80, remains an increment to the treasury. This is an improvement upon former years.

The receipts of the "Oyster Fund" were \$56,075.32, the disbursements, including \$12,500 paid for the steamer, "Governor Hamilton," were \$54,114.13, leaving an increment to this fund, of \$1,961.19. There was to the credit of this fund, \$239,946.40, which is included in the balance in the treasury proper.

The levy for public schools was \$466,089.38; the disbursements were \$468,970.17; the receipts were \$516,004.79 and in excess of the levy, \$49,915.41. The distribution in June, was less than I have been in the habit of making, but it is hoped, at this writing, there will be enough of this tax in hand on the first of January, to enable me to equalize the June with the other distributions, and to retain a sufficient sum to equalize future distributions, as directed by the Act of 1878, chapter 91.

I have endeavored to discharge, faithfully and without fear or favor, the delicate and responsible duties of the trust, to which I have been called for three consecutive terms, in the face of criticisms, which have been freely made in regard to the operations of this department for the last twenty years, and which have been attempted to be severely visited upon the present management. Every warrant for the payment of money, names the Act of Assembly under which it was issued—every voucher is preserved—every letter received is on file, and every letter written is copied in a letter-book. I owe much of this record to the efficient clerks who have labored with me in this service; and I cheerfully commit it to the keeping of the honorable gentleman who has been elected to be my successor, and whose ability and large experience in the discharge of public duties eminently qualify him for his arduous task.

Your obedient servant,

THOS. J. KEATING,
Comptroller.