

to any expedient for the purpose of sustaining the treasury under its ordinary burthens may be obviated:

But the committee would respectfully remind the house that in the last preceding estimates, no provision is made for the payment of interest on the public debt, which according to the Treasurer's statement amounts annually to \$630,000

The income to be derived from the	
Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Co.	
and which is estimated at	75,000
Is chargeable for the support of public schools, with the sum of	35,000
If the balance of this fund should be made applicable to the payment of the interest on the public debt	40,000

There will yet remain a balance of \$590,000

Or in round numbers \$600,000 to be annually provided for. In what manner is provision to be made for this annual charge on the Treasury? This is a most important question and has engaged the most anxious consideration of your Committee.

The greater portion of the State's debt, say upwards of 7,000,000 dollars, was created for the purpose of aiding in the construction of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, under the confident expectation, that the returns from that work, when completed, would enable the treasury to meet its engagement for interest on the debt created for its construction and leave a surplus, applicable to other expences of government. But the canal is yet incomplete and unproductive, nor can any income or revenue be derived from it, until after it shall have reached Cumberland, and be connected with the coal mines, near that place, when it is believed the advantages expected to be derived from it, will be realized.

Your committee are aware that many persons have looked to the proceeds of the public lands, as a source of supply to our exhausted Treasury, and they cannot too strongly express their decided conviction, that the long settled opinion of the State which has so uniformly sanctioned the claim of the States to a fair and just distribution of these proceeds, is based upon principles of the plainest justice; and they will not cease to indulge the expectation, that at a future and not distant day, this long cherished opinion of our State, will be adopted and acted