

Showing an increase in favor of the past five months of the present year to the amount of \$3,455 15. During the entire fiscal year the company has contracted no debt which has not been promptly discharged on demand; and cash payments for current expenses on the several divisions have been steadily maintained. The outstanding debt for repairs and officers' salaries entailed on this company by the policy which was pursued prior to 1843, of which we have spoken in former reports, and which at the close of that year amounted to \$90,969 50, has since been reduced by gradual payments to \$49,028 21. The system now established, by which in a great measure the Board have been enabled to realize these results, has not only produced punctuality in the fulfilment of engagements and harmony and method in the administration of our affairs, but it has likewise necessarily advanced the general interests of the company, by reinstating its credit, and securing the greatest possible economy in its operations and management.

The superintendent of the first division of the canal having resigned his office, to take effect on the 1st instant, the Board have reduced the number of superintendents to two, and have extended the duties of the superintendent of the second division, so as to embrace both the first and second divisions; giving to him, as additional compensation for such enlarged services, one-half of the amount heretofore paid to a third superintendent. By this arrangement the expenses of the company will be somewhat reduced; and it is also believed that more efficient attention to the canal and its works will be thereby secured. Some few other changes have been made in the officers of the company, in consequence of resignations and removals for cause, but they are not of sufficient moment to require a specific notice. In all cases, the Board exact a vigilant attention to duty as the condition of a continuance in office; and in making appointments to fill vacancies, we endeavor to select the most suitable and worthy.

During the last session of the Legislature of Maryland, a joint resolution was passed by both Houses, authorising the commissioner of loans to receive and receipt for the £21,475 sterling coupons heretofore tendered to the State in part payment of the first six months interest on the subscription of the State to the capital stock of this company under the acts of 1838, chapters 386 and 396. In conformity with said resolution, the coupons to the amount mentioned have been delivered to the commissioner of loans, and his receipt taken therefor.

The attention of the Board has recently been directed to the subject of the land titles of the company; and, finding no full record of them in the office, an additional clerk has been temporarily employed to make out a perfect abstract, arranging them in regular sequence, according to the sections of the line they respectively cover. It is to be regretted that this was not done from time to time, as the lands were acquired, inasmuch as it could thus have been accomplished with more facility, and with much less labor.