

ry to pursue the examination of several deposits made in 1844 and entered in the cash book for that year, into the certificate book for 1845. These were chiefly large accounts, but their duty could not have been completed without such examination.

Among the coupons returned by B. Swingley, collector of Washington county, the committee found two for fifteen dollars each, for which no allowance was made in his return. These of course are the property of Mr. S., and are left with the Commissioner of Loans.

In the course of their examination of the certificate book, the committee found several certificates of small amount which appear to have been "marked off" by the committee of 1843. As that committee burnt all the certificates they examined, we received them upon the presumption that some error had occurred in the previous "marking off," and in this conclusion we were strengthened from the fact that the check numbers on the margin of the books were found to be extremely irregular, causing much trouble in the examination by the committee.

In the transfer certificates of stock, the committee deem it proper to state that they found several of these instruments without endorsement. In the cases noticed, the circumstances were such as to authorize us to burn them.

In closing this report the committee take the liberty to state, that after a close and thorough performance of thier duties, they have been forced to the conclusion, that some additional assistance should be given to the Commissioner of Loans. He has now but a single clerk, and he not paid by the State. Had the State been able to have met her responsibilities with punctuality, then the single clerk could have well performed the duties of the office. But with her unfortunate predicament, came increased labor upon the Commissioner of Loans. The doubts as to her securities threw her stock into market, and the same amount in a single week passing through several hands, divided and re-divided, threw additional labor upon the office in the way of transfers. This will be seen by comparing the amount of transfers as exhibited in this report with that of former years. It was her non-payment of the interest on her bonds and her honorable exertion to meet that indebtedness that led to the passage of the coupon law as a means to facilitate the collection of taxes, as well as more especially a relief to her creditors. But, this also increased the labor of the office—a labor which no man can have an accurate idea of, who has not familiarized himself with the same from personal observation. Another labor is involved from this law in the requirement made of the collectors to make their returns of coupons and certificates to the Commissioner of Loans. With all these labors added to those heretofore incident to the office when the State made cash payments on her bonds with punctuality, the committee could not hesitate in seizing so appropriate an occasion to state it as their opinion, that such errors as they have discovered and detailed, must occur so long as means for performing the duties of