

suaded, was the result of causes rapidly ceasing to operate, and which are not likely again, soon to recur. As incontestible evidence of this gratifying circumstance, it is only necessary to point to the fact, that although on the 1st day of December, 1844, we were informed by the message of the then Governor, that the laws were disregarded in seven counties, the message of the present Governor assures us, that the number has been reduced to one, and in that one, there are the strongest reasons for believing the evil will soon cease to exist.

Another of the causes which exerted an adverse influence of powerful force, and essentially discouraged the people in making the necessary sacrifices to maintain the public faith, was the conceded inadequacy of the revenue for some time, to discharge the demands upon the treasury, even if the whole could be collected. The disheartening tendency of such a state of things, need not be enlarged upon, but that it constituted a difficulty of no inconsiderable weight, cannot be questioned.

The committee have deemed it proper to say so much, in justification of a people, who during four years of severe trial and embarrassment, have not for one moment relaxed in their exertions to fulfil their engagements, and this too, notwithstanding they have been incessantly assailed by invective, which but for the sternness of their resolution to do their duty, might have kindled an opposition to its dictates.

Participating fully in the general anxiety that the State should make arrangements to resume the regular payment of interest upon her debt, the committee have given the subject the most careful examination, and they take pride in announcing, as the result of that examination, that this may now be done, with a reasonable expectation of continuing to do so hereafter without interruption.

At all events they deem it their duty to recommend that the attempt be made, and in defence of this recommendation, they present the following statement:

The annual interest on the public debt of this State is	\$655,421 16
But from this is to be deducted, the interest on \$60,000, of six per cent debt, created for the construction of the Tobacco Warehouses in Baltimore, and chargeable upon, and payable out of the Tobacco Inspection Fund	3,600 00
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Leaving	\$651,821 16
The expenses of the government, excluding the charge on the Tobacco Inspection Fund, which has no proper connection with the Treasury, and the charge for colonization, which is specifically provided for, is	\$198,653 02
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Making	<u>\$850,474 18</u>