

aggregate amount of each, and also of the entire State. This amount, \$261,243,660, when compared with the assessment of 1841, exhibits an increase of \$64,492,515,—being nearly thirty-three per cent. advance on that valuation. Than this statement, no stronger evidence could exist of the increasing wealth and prosperity of the people of Maryland, and it is most satisfactory to observe, that this enviable condition is restricted to no particular locality, but appears to be generally diffused throughout the State.

Additional legislation will be necessary to secure all the benefits arising from the late assessment. From none of the County Commissioners of the several Counties, except Allegany, have returns of the incorporated institutions, within their limits, been received; and I recommend the passage of a law, imposing upon them the annual performance of this duty.

In order to carry out the provisions of Chap. 444, of 1853, a circular was addressed to each of the Clerks of the Circuit Courts, the Courts in the city of Baltimore, and Registers of Wills, instructing them to transmit to this Department an account of all the emoluments and expenses of their Offices for the six months preceding the first day of December, particularising as far as practicable the receipts of the Office, and also "the sums paid for Stationery, Official or Contingent Expenses, Fuel, and other things," stating the purpose for which said expenses are applied; also a list of the number of Clerks employed, the duties which they severally perform, and the amount of compensation allowed to each.

These instructions have been generally complied with, but were received too late to collate and arrange properly, during my official term. Sufficient information, however, has been gained to authorize the belief, that no considerable addition to the revenue will be received from this source, and that none whatever may be expected, except from the Clerks of Courts and Register of Wills in Baltimore city, and the Clerks of the Circuit Courts of Baltimore and Frederick counties.

The 4th Section of Chapter 381, of 1853, providing for the erection of an additional Tobacco Warehouse in the city of Baltimore, directs that the cost and expense incurred under its provisions, shall be charged in the Tobacco Fund, and a detailed report thereof made to the Legislature, within the first ten days of the next session. The amount paid on this account, to the date of this report, is \$8,379.23, of which, as appears by the drafts of the Commissioners, \$6,000 was for purchase of lot, \$239.62 for tearing down Warehouse and cleaning bricks, \$1,606.50 for driving piles and logging, and \$533.11 for flagging and stone masonry. The expenditure of this sum leaves a balance to the credit of the Tobacco Fund of but \$4,566.81.