

In connection with this subject, I think it proper to lay before you, in tabular form, the Gross Receipts from State Tobacco Inspections in the City of Baltimore, for the twelve months ending November 30th, 1853, and the expenses attendant thereon :

Gross receipts from State Tobacco Inspections in the City of Baltimore, in the year ended 30th November, 1853, was.....			\$66,216 70
Of this sum there was disbursed in the same period the sum of \$56,890.99, on the following accounts, viz :			
For Incidental Expenses.....	7,133 78		
“ Wages to Laborers.....	25,828 25		
“ Rent of Warehouses for Storage of Tobacco, and Drayage.....	3,208 44		
		36,170 47	
“ Account of Nails.....		6,010 52	
“ Salaries of Inspectors and Clerks.....		14,710 00	
			56,890 99
			<u>\$9,325 71</u>

By this statement it will be seen, that the gross receipts to the 30th of November, are \$66,216.70, the expenses during the same period, \$56,890.99, and the nett revenue \$9,325.71. Of these expenses \$3,208.44 was paid for storage, and the drayage consequent thereon, although it is believed that other of the State's Warehouses possessed the requisite capacity to receive this Tobacco, if the present system permitted the practice.

In view of the facts thus presented, it becomes a question of some importance to ascertain, if a change in the present system might not be advantageously made, and it is submitted to the Legislature to determine if the present law might not be amended to provide for a Chief Inspector, who, in addition to general supervisory powers, should have in charge all the expenditures and disbursements of the Warehouses, with authority to regulate and control the storage. Whether these suggestions be practicable or not, it cannot be doubted, that if a change is not effected, the Inspection of Tobacco will degenerate into a charge upon the general revenue of the Treasury, an event never anticipated by the founders of the system, and which, if permitted, would operate unjustly to the other producing interests of the State.

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 COMPROLLER.