

Such amendments should, however, be more properly suggested to the Legislature.

REVENUE FROM CLERKS OF COURTS, &c.

Statement No. 9, also discloses the Receipts into the Treasury from Sales of Licenses, Tax on Plaintiffs, on Commissions of Trustees and Receivers, Excess of Officers' Fees, &c., which are received through the Clerks of Courts, Commissioner of Stamps, &c. The amount received from these sources, during the fiscal year, was \$239,211.66, which exceeds the receipts of the previous fiscal year, inclusive of October and November, in the sum of \$18,589.91.

In connection with the Revenue received through the hands of Clerks of Courts from Sales of Licenses, it may be proper to remark, that by chap. 200 of 1854, Licenses were ordered to be issued, for the inspection, gauging and weighing, of certain commodities: which business had been, previously, under the special care of Officers appointed by the Executive.

Whether, in a commercial point of view, this particular act was judicious or not, the opinions of many may differ, but it is certain, that in its operation it has proved of financial advantage to the State. The Revenue derived from this source, since the law went into effect to the close of the fiscal year, amounted to \$6,682.50. There is no reason to suppose that in the coming year, this amount will be diminished.

The settlements made on these accounts, namely, for Licenses, Tax on Plaintiffs, &c., per the Clerks of Courts, have been very punctual and satisfactory, with but few exceptions.

It is to be regretted, that the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Caroline County has failed to pay into the Treasury the amount of Revenue accrued in his hands, upon his three Semi-Annual Returns, to June 1854, amounting in the aggregate to more than \$3,500. Suits were ordered by this Department upon his official bond for the amounts due upon each of these returns, but to the present time nothing whatever has been received into the Treasury therefrom. In view of the necessity of protecting the Public Revenue, and the proper action under the Law passed at the last Session