

The prudence and discretion of the committee will be manifest upon an inspection of the vouchers of their expenditures, on file in the Comptroller's office.

It is a source of pleasure to be able to bear testimony to the general promptness and efficiency of the various officers throughout the State, in their connection with the Treasury Department; and special commendation is due to those of Baltimore city, for their zeal and energy in the public service. The receipts into the Treasury from Baltimore city, exclusive of those from Tobacco Warehouses, Live Stock Scales, Hay Scales, Incorporated Institutions, &c., during the fiscal year, were \$349,895.09, thus illustrating the remark of Governor Lowe in his message of the year 1852, that "the broad shoulders of that noble city now bear up more than one-third of the whole burden of the State;" while, as he very justly observed, she contributes in a much larger proportion by her indirect revenues.

In conclusion, the Comptroller congratulates the representatives of the people upon the financial condition of the State: prosperous and flourishing far beyond the most sanguine anticipations of ten years ago. The taxes have been reduced from time to time, despite of timid remonstrance, and yet the revenues have continued to meet every demand; and the Sinking Fund has now reached a sum which will, by augmentation from its interest alone, more than suffice to liquidate the Public Debt at maturity, without the addition of one solitary cent from surplus revenue.

In the further discharge of his duties, the Comptroller holds himself in readiness to obey the behests of your Honorable body.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. HENRY PURNELL,

Comptroller.