

that the stocks purchased for the Sinking Fund were obtained on an average at a fraction under *par*. The high price and scarcity of Maryland stock in the market, indicates the unshaken faith of the public in the ability and integrity of the State.

The control of the Sinking Fund is by law vested in the Treasurer, and its favorable condition gives evidence of his judicious management; and the Comptroller embraces this opportunity to acknowledge the hearty co-operation he has received from that officer in the administration of this Department of the State Government.

RECEIPTS FROM CLERKS OF COURTS.

The revenue derived from Licenses, from the Tax on Commissions of Trustees and Receivers, &c., received from the Clerks of Courts, will be found exhibited in *Table No. 4*, of the Appendix, and amounted in the fiscal year to \$290,465.51; in the preceding year the receipts from the same sources were \$296,489.07. The receipts from Licenses alone, amounted to \$272,285.77, a falling off, compared with 1859, of \$4,834.73. This may be accounted for by the alteration made in the License Law at the last session of the Legislature; the decrease, however, is quite unimportant, and the modification in the law was very properly made under the circumstances.

A list of the Clerks who were in default to the State on the 30th of September last, appears in *Table No. 20*.

A payment of \$4,600, in accordance with chapter 305 of 1858, was made during the year by the administrators of one of the sureties of L. S. Norwood, late Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, on account of the indebtedness of the said Norwood to the State.

The Clerks have generally been prompt in the return and settlement of their accounts.

FROM REGISTERS OF WILLS.

The receipts into the Treasury from this class of officers, during the fiscal year, were \$64,074.64, an increase of \$3,205.72 compared with the revenue from the same sources.