

and the same deficiency existed on the 30th September last, which has since been paid.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company has paid into the Treasury during the last fiscal year \$278,577.25 divided as follows:

For one-fifth receipts from passengers on Wash- ington Branch.....	\$69,577.25
Dividends on Stock Wash. Branch.....	55,000.00
“ “ “ Main Stem.....	40,000.00
Interest on \$1,900,000.....	114,000.00

The receipts from this source have greatly diminished by the failure of the Company to pay over the one-fifth receipts on the Washington Branch. None of the earnings of the Road has been paid since July, 1868.

There is now overdue from this source, one whole year to July last, and another six months falls due on the first day of January, 1870. I addressed a letter to Mr. Garrett, the President, in April last, calling his attention to the matter, to which he did not deign any reply. I learn verbally, that they are holding it to pay an alleged claim they set up against the State, for excess of premium paid on the sterling debt during the years 1863 and 1864. It will be a subject for your investigation whether this claim is just or not; but withholding money that clearly does not belong to the Railroad Company, is not calculated to facilitate a settlement of the difficulty. This one-fifth receipts belongs either to the State for which it was collected, or to the passengers that paid it. It might be material to the question to inquire why this Company still continues to collect what they regard as a tax after they have discovered that it is unconstitutional, and have ceased to pay over? It is the lamest kind of special pleading that Mr. Garrett (through the Finance Committee) quotes the Nevada case as settling the question, that the “Company has not the *right* to continue to pay this tax,” in the face of the fact that two installments on this account have been paid since that decision was rendered at September, 1867, term of the Supreme Court.

It is a subject of congratulation that works of internal improvement are progressing in every direction; that the Bal-