

fused to pay the taxes on their shares of stock, so that a large amount of principal and interest is now due from that source. The taxes on these shares, are assessed by mere operation of law, and all that is necessary for this department, under existing law, is to ascertain the number of shares and their cash value, in order to state the account. I propose to recommend in my next Annual Report, which will be made to the Legislature, such additional enactments, as in my judgment will serve to remedy the defects in the laws upon this subject.

TOBACCO INSPECTIONS.

Table No. 8 exhibits the receipts and disbursements on account of the State Tobacco Inspections. Some of the provisions of the laws, in regard to these Inspections, require material amendment.

FOREIGN INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Table No. 13 shows the receipts into the Treasury from licenses to agents of Foreign Insurance Companies, amounting to \$33,900—a small increase over the amount received from the same source in the preceding year. The laws in reference to these Companies and the subject of Insurance generally, require revision and reduction into system. The legislation on the subject of these Companies has a two-fold object—to raise revenue, and to protect the citizens of the State from imposition by fraudulent or irresponsible Companies; the latter is perhaps the more important object to be attained. I intend to propose to the next Legislature, some amendments to the laws on the subject of Insurance, which, I think, will be salutary in their effect.

DOMESTIC INSURANCE COMPANIES.

In conformity with the Act of 1870, chapter 257, I have established a form of return, and forwarded a copy to each of the Domestic Insurance Companies in the State, of