charitable institutions of the State, which are not included in the expenses for said last named year, the ordinary expenses of the State government for the fiscal year just closed, are nearly forty thousand dollars less than they were for the fiscal year Such a comparison shows, that the expenses of our State, aside from the appropriations made by the Legislature to the cause of charity have not increased, but on the contrary have been reduced, when compared with the expenditures of the fiscal year 1886. I mention these facts that you may see at a glance, not only that the ordinary expenses of the government vary but little, comparing one year with another, but that an economical or extravagant administration of public affairs depends entirely upon the pleasure of the Legislature.

## ESTIMATES.

The probable receipts for the fiscal year 1888, as shown by statement C, of the appendix, amount to \$1,933,648.34.

This estimate does not include any probable receipts from the Susquehanna and Tide-water Canal Companies of which I speak elsewhere. Should they make payment the receipts for 1888 would be very probably over two millions of dollars. But omitting this item we will have in the treasury—if our estimates be correct—with the balance on hand 30th September, 1887, for the use of the State during the fiscal year 1888, the sum of \$2,615,671.54.

Statement D, shows in detail that the probable disbursements for same period will amount to \$1,770,851.40, which, if correct, will leave a balance in the treasury 30th September, 1888, of \$844,820.14.

## FREE SCHOOL FUND.

The receipts on account of the Free School Fund for the fiscal year 1887, amounted to \$68,434.57 which, added to the balance on 30th September, 1886, makes