

employed to pay the interest on the public debt and shall, together with the comptroller at the close of every month, examine and burn all such coupons that have been recorded and shall make a report of their proceedings showing the amount of the value of such coupons to the legislature at each session thereof.

An. Code, sec. 23. 1904, sec. 23. 1888, sec. 23. 1862, ch. 112. 1890, ch. 571.

23. The comptroller and treasurer shall within the first two weeks of January, April, July and October in every year, in the presence of the governor, count and cancel the bonds and certificates for stocks of the State and count and examine the other securities purchased or obtained by the treasurer for the use of the sinking fund; and a statement of the bonds and certificates so counted and those so counted and cancelled signed by the comptroller and treasurer and countersigned by the governor shall be filed in the office of the comptroller within one week after each such count and cancellation; and the committee on finance of the senate and the committee on ways and means of the house of delegates shall jointly during each session of the legislature and within the first month of such session examine and count all such bonds and certificates of stock so purchased or obtained up to the close of the fiscal year next preceding such session and cancelled or stamped "purchased for the sinking fund," as required by the provisions of this article, and shall burn all such bonds and certificates of stock as belong to the overdue debt of the State and shall examine carefully all bonds or certificates of stock maturing at some future day for the purpose of ascertaining that the same have been endorsed or marked, cancelled or stamped "purchased for the sinking fund," as required by section 26, and that the accruing coupons and interest thereon have been collected and credited to said sinking fund and shall make a joint report of their proceedings therein to both houses of the legislature within two weeks after they shall have finished their said duties as prescribed by this section.

An. Code, sec. 24. 1904, sec. 24. 1888, sec. 24. 1858, ch. 109, sec. 3.

24. The agents employed to pay the interest upon the public debt are hereby required semi-annually to transmit to the treasurer of the State all coupons they may have paid up to the time of making such transmission.

An. Code, sec. 25. 1904, sec. 25. 1888, sec. 25. 1872, ch. 276, sec. 4.

25. Whenever in the judgment of the comptroller there shall be a surplus in the treasury over and above the amount necessary to meet the current expenses of the State, as provided by law, he shall cause the same to be invested in the bonds or certificates of debt of this State purchased at par or less; and in all purchases of bonds or certificates hereby directed to be made, the treasurer shall give the preference to the overdue debt of the State and the comptroller and treasurer may at any time require the said overdue debt or some class thereof which can be regulated and accurately described to be presented at the place where made payable for payment by giving not less than thirty days' notice to the holders of