

session of the Legislature, the repeal taking effect on the 10th of March.

No provision was made for the dedemption of Stamps remaining in the hands of holders at the time the law went into operation. In several instances, this Department was requested to return the amount of these Duties, but, in the absence of any specific appropriation, under the 20th section of the 3rd Article of the Constitution, the Comptroller was constrained to refuse.

The Legislature, at its next session, will doubtless afford the necessary relief.

STATEMENT No. 6, will exhibit the amount of money received for Stamp Duties, from the 30th of September, 1855, to the repeal of the law, which appears to have been \$40,453.02, of which sum \$21,864.12 was paid by the Commissioner of Stamps, and \$18,588.90 by the Clerks of the several Courts.

REVENUE FROM CLERKS OF COURTS, &c.

STATEMENT No. 7, also shows the receipts into the Treasury from the sales of Licenses, Taxes on Plaintiffs, on Commissions of Trustees and Receivers, Excess of Officers' Fees, &c.

The entire amount received from these sources during the fiscal year was \$295,629.78, an increase of \$32,276.08, over the aggregate receipts, on these accounts, in the preceding fiscal year.

It will be observed that this increase is derived principally from Licenses issued to Ordinary Keepers and Traders, under the "New License Act." This law passed by the Legislature at their recent session, contains an admirable provision by which the oath of the applicant is made the guide of the Clerk in granting the License.

In some respects, however, the Act is defective: there is no penalty attached to its violation, unless the penalties of former laws apply, and they will be found inadequate; some portions of it are also inconsistent with others, and this has occasioned much difficulty in its execution.

The attention of the next Legislature will be called to this subject, and the recommendation of my predecessor renewed, for the passage of a general law embracing the whole License system. Such a law, extending to many new branches of