

his hands for suit, is binding upon the State, and releases the debt, has been productive of much trouble and difficulty, and this Department has, therefore, endeavored, as far as possible, to correct this opinion.

AUCTION DUTIES.

The returns made by the several Auctioneers in the City of Baltimore, during the fiscal year, amounted in the aggregate to \$16,886.73, as appears in STATEMENT No. 11.

In accordance with Chapter 266 of the Acts of 1853, the proceeds of these Auction Duties are appropriated to the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, for the purpose of deepening the channel in the Chesapeake Bay and Patapsco River, below Fort McHenry.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAIL ROAD COMPANY.

The amount of the State's proportion of the receipts on the Washington Branch of this Road, in the fiscal year, was \$73,059.08, an increase as compared with the receipts in the fiscal year ending the 30th of September 1855, of \$5,086.69.

During the same period, the State received from this Company on Road Stock for dividends \$67,315, being an increase over the preceding year of \$31,565. Of the sum received \$20,565, was for the "Main Stem," and \$46,750, for the "Washington Branch." These figures indicate the rapidly increasing prosperity of this magnificent Road.

SUSQUEHANNA AND TIDE-WATER CANAL COMPANIES.

By STATEMENT No. 10, it appears that these Companies paid, during the fiscal year, \$70,812.20; of which sum \$67,100 was on account of current interest, and \$3,712.20, on account of interest on the unfunded debt due by the said Companies.

NORTHERN CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY.

Within the fiscal year the State has received into the Treasury the sum of \$90,000, paid by this Company in fulfillment of its obligations under chapter 260 of 1854.

TOBACCO INSPECTIONS.

By an examination of STATEMENT No. 11, the gross receipts from State Tobacco Inspections in Baltimore, will be found to have been, in the year ended on the 30th of September last, \$56,568.91, (being \$6,450.89 less than those of the preced-